Bow — No 9. 242 Pembroke Road

23 January 1880

to

10 Sept 1881

Those interested in the artificial propagation of fish have an opportunity just now of seeing operations in full working order at Mr. Frank Buckland's Museum, at South Kensington. Perhaps in no former year have the hatching-boxes contained so promising a "crop" of eggs as at present. These are all now in various stages of development, and present highly interesting illustrations of the birth of young fish, and their growth in their earlier or "babyhood" life. In some instances, indeed, the eggs have not even yet "hatched out;" they are, however, very "ripe," and it is expected that in a very few days each will have produced its offspring. In some of the boxes the little fish have only recently burst from "the shell," and still retain the umbilical bag, which will not be absorbed for some days longer. In other boxes the fish are in a more advanced state, and can be seen swimming about in apparent enjoyment. Of all these tiny little creatures, perhaps the most interesting specimens are those of the *salmo fortunalis*, or American brook trout. These have been bred from fish which were born in the Gardens, and which are now located in the large open-air tank in the Horticultural Gardens Through the kindness of the Marquis of Ailsa, Mr. Buckland has been able to secure some eggs of the celebrated Loch Leven trout. The hatching out of the fry of these is watched with special interest. Of salmon proper (*salmo salar*) the principal representatives this year come from the Upper Rhine. The eggs of these fish are remarkable for their large size and healthy appearance. Mr. Buckland, who annually distributes a vast number of young fish of various kinds throughout the country, considers that a judicious cross of these German fish with our English salmon might possibly result in improving the kind in our home waters; and in due time he contemplates transferring the German salmon fry from South Kensington, and turning them out into the head waters of certain rivers, with the view of introducing fresh blood into the salmon stock. Of trout, there are, in addition to the Loch Leven trout, several representatives. Among these are bull trout (*salmo croix*), lake trout from Switzerland, and some of the celebrated Stour trout from near Canterbury, presented by the Angling Association there. The loss of eggs at South Kensington this year has been almost *nil*—a fact which reflects credit on Edon, the Superintendent.

THE FISHERY REPORT.

Mr. TASSE asked what was the expenditure incurred for the publication of the report of the Department of Marine and Fisheries for the years 1877 and 1878 respectively. What amount of saving, if any, had the Government effected in the publication of the report for 1879?

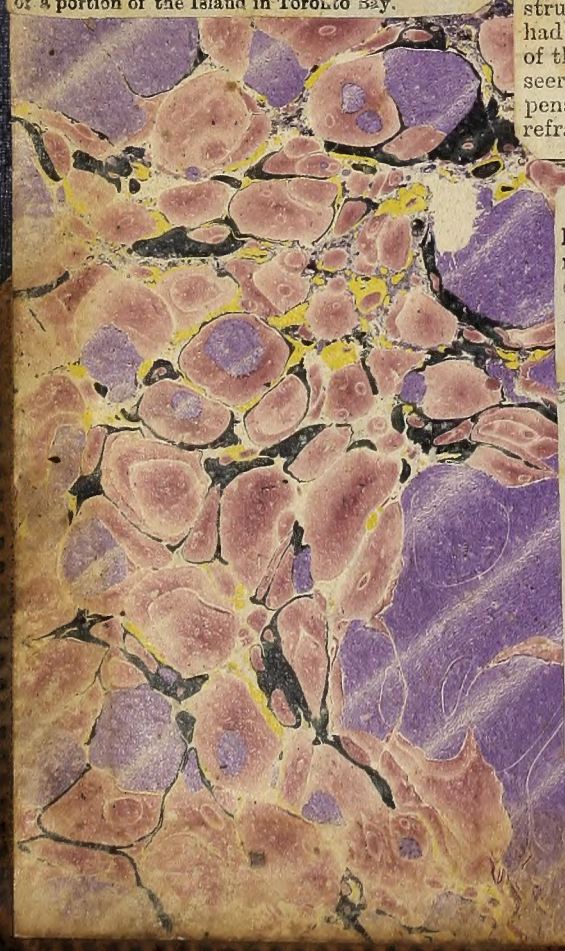
Ma. POPE (P.E I) said he would give the exact figures later on, but he could say that there had been a large saving this year.

Mr. MACKENZIE—Perhaps the hon. gentleman will tell us the number of pages in which the report is printed.

Sir JOHN MACDONALD—Never mind the pages, the hon. gentleman has turned over a new leaf. (Laughter.)

HANLAN AT OTTAWA.

OTTAWA, Feb. 16—Hanlan stated to a reporter this morning that it is not at all likely he will go to England the coming summer, as Boyd had withdrawn his challenge. In relation to the Courtney matter, he expects the affair to be settled this week, and the race to take place at Washington, on or about the 15th of May next. The champion oarsman left for Toronto this evening, having completed his business with the Government in relation to a lease of a portion of the Island in Toronto Bay.



FISHERMEN LAUGH AT THE LAW.

HALIFAX, July 26.—Col. A. W. Drayson, of the Royal Artillery, who left here several weeks ago on a fishing excursion, writes a letter, dated Matane, county of Rimouski, Province of Quebec, to the papers here relative to salmon fishing on the Matane River, from which the following is extracted:—I arrived at this river early in July, and at about 10 o'clock on the first night of my arrival my attention was called to a number of lights which illuminated the river as far as I could see. These lights were torches, and in some twelve or fifteen canoes and boats, in each of which were two men spearing salmon. I ascertained that every night this spearing was carried on, and in addition that men stationed themselves at the ladder, and speared every salmon that attempted to ascend. I also obtained certain statistics, viz., that the average per boat was about seven or eight salmon killed each night, and about double that number wounded. The wounded made their way out of the river and died. Havingstudied the Fishery Act, in which I found that spearing was forbidden, I visited the fishery overseer and enquired why he did not stop this destruction of salmon. From him I obtained the following startling facts. He showed me a list of the names of men who speared, and he stated that each of these men had been several times convicted for spearing, but the sentence had not been carried out, because there was no gaol at Matane, and he was not allowed to incur expense in order to convey the prisoners to Rimouski. I then enquired why he did not seize the boats used in spearing, and was told there were about twenty men who speared. These men were sympathised with by the lower class of inhabitants, and no persons could be procured to aid him in seizing a canoe or boat. He stated besides that these men had threatened to take his life if he interfered with them. On the following day I visited the overseer, attended by Lieut.-Colonel Irwin and Mr. A. Galt, and then informed him that we would aid him to capture the canoes. Attended by the overseer we took one canoe; when the alarm spread and every boat and canoe was carried by the owners into their houses and the doors locked. One boat, however, was placed in a garden just inside a fence, and the owners announced that if the overseer attempted to take this boat they would knock him down. As I was aware that the overseer was justified by the Fishery Act in taking this boat I told him to advance. He did so, and was immediately assaulted by the owner of the boat. As such an assault could be dealt with by a Magistrate a summons was issued, and the defendant was tried and found guilty and sentenced to a fine of $50 or three months' imprisonment. Amidst smiles of his friends he accepted the option of three months, and walked out of Court at liberty! The bailiffs at Matane were afraid to take the prisoner, so a telegram was sent to Rimouski for the sheriff to arrest him. The reply to the Magistrate at Matane was "I will go down if you will personally secure all costs." A few days afterwards the sheriff's officer did come to Matane, visited the prisoner's brother, and after a reasonable time visited the prisoner's house, but he was out. The sheriff's officer then returned to Rimouski without the prisoner. Considering this destruction of salmon a matter of great importance I wrote to the Minister of Fisheries at Ottawa, and was informed that the authorities found great difficulty in acting, as there was no guardian to the river. During 1876-7 and 1878 there was a guardian, but when some fifteen or twenty men had been convicted of spearing, and yet these men were left at large, the guardian was discontinued, the assault on the overseer having terminated in a manner similar to other convictions. There are now from ten to fifteen boats every night, and two or three each day, used in spearing salmon, and scarcely one fish is seen in the river. The Fishery Act is laughed at here, and the law avoided. That such destruction should be allowed would be a mystery had I not been shown a private letter from one of the heads of Departments, telling the overseer to do nothing which could cause any expense, and also making other remarks which I refrain from repeating.

The Use of Dynamite.

The use of the above explosive in the Bay lately caused the destruction of an immense number of fish, which attracted the attention of the authorities. For the benefit of the public we publish the following:

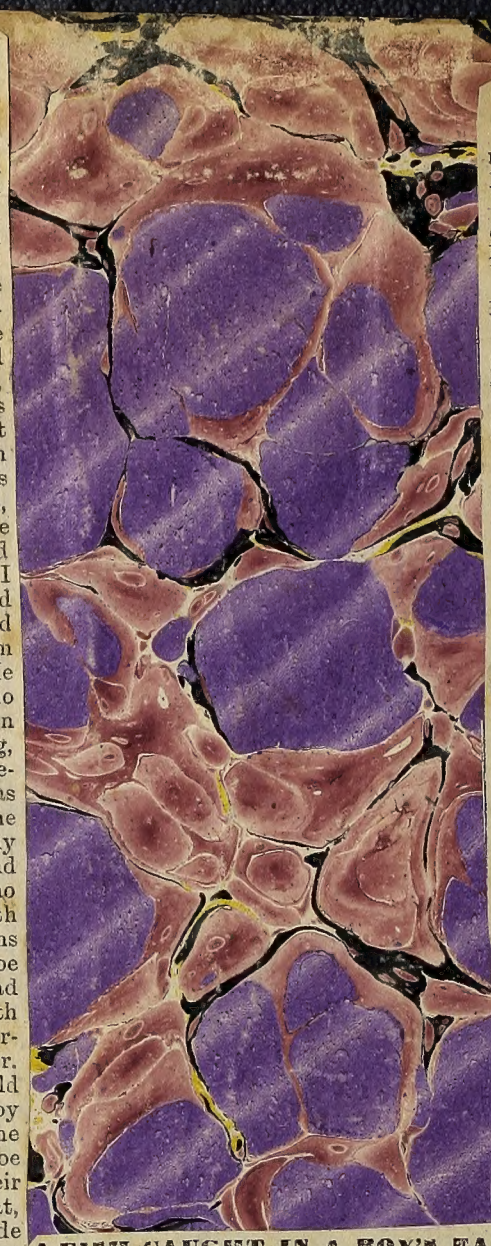
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA,
THURSDAY, 20th day of April, 1876.

Present: His Excellency the Governor-General in Council. On the recommendation of the Honorable the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and under the provisions of the Act passed in the session of the Parliament of Canada held in the 31st year of Her Majesty's reign, chaptered 60, and known as "The Fisheries Act," His Excellency, by and with the advice of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, has been pleased to make the following fishery regulation:

"The use of explosive materials to catch or kill fish is forbidden in the Dominion of Canada."

W. A. HIMSWORTH,
Clerk, Privy Council.

It will be thus seen that the use of explosives in Canadian waters is prohibited, and those interested will do well to govern themselves accordingly.



COUNTY FINANCES.

Synopsis of the Treasurer's Statement.

The following is a synopsis of the statement of the County Treasurer for the year 1879:

FIRST QUARTER.	
Cash on hand Jan. 1, 1879	$60,118 11
Receipts	16,105 86
	$76,223 97
Expenditure	22,784 01
SECOND QUARTER.	
Cash on hand	$53,439 96
Receipts	9,411 84
	$62,851 80
Expenditure	17,955 53
THIRD QUARTER.	
Cash on hand	$44,899 27
Receipts	12,036 16
	$56,932 43
Expenditure	31,412 48
FOURTH QUARTER.	
Cash on hand	$25,515 95
Receipts	28,084 96
	$53,604 91
Expenditure	13,829 9[illegible]
Cash on hand Dec. 31	$39 774
TOTAL.	
Cash on hand Jan. 1, 1879	$60,11[illegible]
Receipts	65,6[illegible]
	$125,7[illegible]
Expenditure	85,[illegible]
Cash on hand, 1880	$39[illegible]
BALANCE.	
Dec. 31, 1879, Dr.	$5[illegible]
" cash on hand	[illegible]
	$
" Cr.	
Jan. 1, 1879, cash on hand	

A FISH CAUGHT IN A BOY'S EAR.

The Terrible Agony that a Minnow Caused a Pennsylvania Lad.

(Reading, Pa., Eagle, July 9.)

A most horrible case of suffering is reported from No. 422 Walnut street, this city. The name of the victim is George Whitman, son of Howard Whitman, aged fourteen years. His sufferings were terrible in the extreme and the pain and agony endured by him almost drove him mad. Young Whitman, in company with a number of boys about his own age, had been in the habit of bathing in the Schuylkill, and since vacation commenced has gone in the water several times a day. Three weeks ago he was swimming with several of his schoolmates, and while diving he experienced a tickling sensation in one of his ears. Directly after he had a little pain, but it was only momentary, and soon passed away. He probed for the object with a sharp piece of wood, but could find nothing. He dressed and went home, and no more attention was paid to the matter. Some time after he had a terrible headache, and from that time up to within a few days ago he experienced nothing but an unceasing agony. The boy is naturally small and delicate for his age and the awful strain upon his nervous system was enough to greatly reduce him and render him almost crazy. Sometimes there was a slight alleviation, but it invariably increased, and always with increasing pain. No physician was employed, his parents thinking he was afflicted with nothing but earache. The agony increased, and the boy passed many a sleepless night. His eye lost its brilliancy, and his cheeks their rosy, healthful hue. Laudanum was recommended as a remedy for earache, and enough of the liquid was poured into his auditory passage to lay him into that sweet sleep that knows no waking. No relief was experienced by the frequent applications of laudanum and rabbit's fat was next recommended. The animal was obtained and a lot of fat rendered. This brought no relief, and only greater and more horrible suffering. Matters went on in this way for over two weeks. It was now thought that the boy was afflicted with neuralgia, because he only experienced the pain in fits and starts. When it first commenced the one side of his head felt as if some small object was wriggling and twisting in his ear. During this time he often thought the top of his head was about bursting open. The properties of molasses to "draw" are well known and a drop was poured into his ear. At 11 o'clock at night he had another attack, and the pain he then endured his parents say are simply indescribable. Sleep was impossible. Laying quietly down was not to be thought of. Up and down the room and through various parts of the house the boy paced all night. At 6 o'clock next morning he felt something press hard against the lobe of his ear. His mother was called and winding a handkerchief around the head of a small pin, probed into his ear. She saw something protrude. She reached for it, got a firm hold, and pulled out a white-looking object, over two inches long, which proved to be a fish one of the species used by many of the disciples of Izaak Walton for bait. Immediately relief was experienced. The boy felt as if a weight of fifty pounds had been removed from his head and immediately began to get better.

THE LATE SPRING.

Comparative Review of Late Springs During the Past Twenty-Two Years—Three Feet of Snow in Lobo—Frost in the Southern States—Damage to Fruit, Vegetables and Cotton.

CANADA.

A correspondent writing from Langstaff, East York, sends the following notes from his diary, "to show the farmers and others that we have had seasons later and colder than the present, and not caused by the national policy":—

March, April and May, notes of cold, late spring work and first seeding of late and early.

1857—April 1st, very cold with snow; 4th, snow storm, 4 inches; 8th, snow storm, 2 inches; 19th, snow all day; 26th, two lambs perished with cold.

1859—April 27th, sowed spring wheat; 28th, cold, frosty nights; May 2nd, first warm weather.

1861—April 1st, snow storm all day; 12th, commenced ploughing; May 1st, great snow storm, ice half-inch thick.

1862—April 15th, first appearance of spring, a quantity of snow banks.

1867—April 5th, first robin sung; any quantity of snow and ice; 20th, sowed barley, peas and tares; 22nd, Easter Monday, snow storm; May 2nd, hard frost at nights.

1870—April 10th, snow banks, many frosty nights; 19th, no ploughing done yet; 30th sowed a field of oats.

1872—April 15th, frosty nights; 25th, sowed peas.

1873—April 15th, first ploughing; 29th, first sowing.

1874—April 12th, hard frost, ice 1½ inch; 17th sowed eight acres spring wheat.

1875—April 12th, sowed eight acres of barley.

1876—March 31st, snow deep and sleighing good; April 9th and 10th, hard frost at nights; 16th, snow in patches; 23rd, snow all gone, ground frozen; 25th, sowed peas and tares.

1877—March 17th, cold, four deg. below zero; 18th, good sleighing; 19th, cold, two deg. below zero; April 12th, sowed twelve acres wheat.

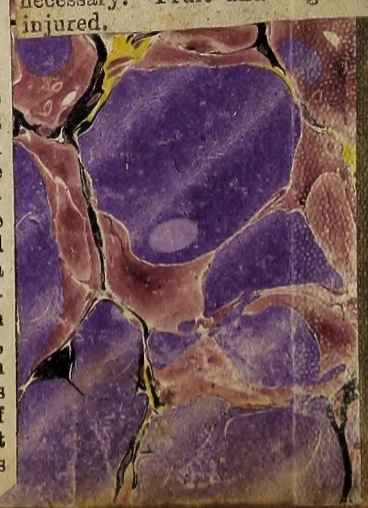
1878—March 21st, sowed twelve acres of spring wheat; April 2nd, sowed twelve acres oats; 3rd, sowed nine acres barley; 4th, sowed twelve acres peas.

LONDON, April 5.—Three feet of snow fell in the Township of Lobo during the late storm.

UNITED STATES.

AUGUSTA, Ga., April 5.—The extreme cold weather of the last forty-eight hours has killed the fruit and early vegetables in Georgia and South Carolina.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., April 5.—There was ice and frost here this morning, and it was general in the State. It damaged the cotton that is up some, and replanting will be necessary. Fruit and vegetables are all injured.



MISCELLANEOUS.

SALMON-FISHING IN CANADA.

To the Sporting Editor of The Mail.

SIR,—The salmon-fishing in Canada is a matter of great interest not only to Canadians, but to sportsmen in the Old Country. I came out from England in May last for a three or four months' trip, and having heard at home of the great doings of the Canadian Government with regard to the protection of the rivers and the artificial breeding of salmon, my expectations of what I should find were naturally great. This season has been, as all must admit, an exceptionally bad one, but making all due allowance for this, there are certain facts which could not fail to come under one's observation, and to which it would be well if the Government could be induced to give their attention.

I have been staying at Tadousac, at the mouth of the Saguenay, where the Government have one of their fish-breeding establishments. An enormous quantity of mature salmon appear to be required for this establishment. It is, however, only due to those in charge to say that the young fry that I saw there in June looked healthy and well-cared for. These fry are sent away from the establishment at a very early age, when they are only from one-half an inch to an inch long, and are turned in at the mouths, or only at a short distance from the mouths, of the rivers to which they are consigned, where they at once become an easy prey to, and capital food for, sea trout, kingfishers, ducks, gulls, &c. No attempt seems to have been made to keep these fry until they are older and better able to protect themselves, nor does it appear that any trouble is taken to turn them in at any distance from the mouths of the various rivers, in such places where they would be found if in a natural state. Even where this is done it would be well to protect them as much as possible for some further period, until they are better able to look after themselves. This is now, I believe, the fifth year that these fish-breeding establishments have been in working operation, and it would be well if a full and complete return were asked for in Parliament as to management and cost of, and result at present attained by, these establishments. They must cost the country a large annual sum, and if the truth can be ascertained I am afraid it will be found that they have been practically useless, and the money spent upon them thrown away. An Indian was asked if he could give any reason for the gradual decrease of salmon in the Saguenay district, and his reply was, "They try make salmon at Tadousac—God not like that; salmon not like that; salmon go away."

One thing at least is certain, and that is that fishermen and, "habitants" all agree in the opinion that ever since the Government has taken to making laws and regulations as to fish and fishing, the fishing has been getting gradually worse. In an admirable book called "The Emigrant and Sportsman in Canada," by John J. Rowan, there is a paragraph at page 415 to which I would draw attention. It commences: "To amuse themselves or to amuse the public, I do not really know which, the Department of Fisheries have established a number of salmon-hatching houses," &c., &c.

What the Government ought to do is to turn their attention, and this at once, to the protection of the salmon in their natural state by making proper rules and regulations with regard to nets and other fixed engines, and also by taking active steps to prevent the destruction of fish by spearing, &c.

The account given by Colonel Drayson, R. A., which was published in the papers, of the spearing in the "Matane," speaks for itself, and it is useless to contend that it is exaggerated or misrepresented. The position of Colonel Drayson is a sufficient guarantee of itself, but if it were necessary there are other gentlemen who can vouch for the absolute truth and correctness of his statements.

SALMON FISHING IN CANADA.

To the Sporting Editor of The Mail.

SIR,—Under the above heading, Mr. Eardley-Wilmot B. Holt, of London, England, instances the salmon fishery station at Tadousac to prove his assertion that the Canadian Government neglects to make "proper rules and regulations" for the protection and increase of salmon. He asserts as an eye-witness that:—"About one mile from the fish-breeding establishment at Tadousac there is a fixed salmon net, which traverses the channel of the river Saguenay, and from which it is boasted that few salmon on their way up the Saguenay ever escape."

This stand of nets is distant from the fish-hatchery about three miles, and is altogether outside of the Saguenay river, being situated on the River St. Lawrence, the "channel" of which is here 23 miles wide. In fact there is not a salmon net in the Saguenay river from its entrance into the St. Lawrence upwards to its source. When reminded that the Saguenay river exceeds one mile in width at the place described by him, is from 25 to 100 fathoms deep, and that the net in question is only fifty fathoms long and eight feet in depth, Mr. Holt should perceive the uncertainty of his personal observations at Tadousac last summer, if he does not indeed feel ashamed of illustrating his random charges of legislative inefficiency and official neglect by an assertion so grossly at variance with reason and fact. If Mr. Holt had consulted the fishery laws, he would have found that the restrictions which he specifies, and many more, are therein provided; and he could easily have ascertained that they are duly observed in this instance, his unsportsmanlike insinuation of laxity or favouritism on the part of the excellent officer employed there to the contrary notwithstanding.

His further assertion that "the sea-trout fishing in the Saguenay district is, by all accounts, getting worse and worse every year," will be startling news to those sportsmen who frequent it for fishing instead of for grumbling, and enjoy good sport. The sea-trout have really become so numerous that it is an extremely difficult problem how to diminish their present excessive numbers so as at once to preserve the salmon fishing which they are injuring, and provide sufficient trout angling for the general public.

Many of the flippant statements in Mr. Rowan's "admirable book," which Mr. Holt quotes confirmatively, are of equal credibility, and about as worthy of serious attention as the "reason" of the superstitious Indian tacked on to Mr. Holt's other authorities. When English sportsmen who visit Canada can deliberately write for print in such a reckless manner, what limit can there be to the license of their conversation?

Allow me, Mr. Editor, to add that being just now "off duty" I make the above correction in my private capacity, from personal knowledge of the truth.

Yours, etc.,
W. F. WHITCHER.

Ottawa, 9th Dec., 1880.

Daily Records of
JOHN W. KERR
Hamilton, Ontario
Fisheries Overseer and Inspector
Southern Ontario, 1864-1888
Presented to
ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM OF ZOOLOGY
by his son, Charles J. Kerr

VOLUME 9
Jan. 23, 1880 - Oct. 10, 1881

A FISHY QUESTION.—Wednesday Fishery Inspector Kerr had Mr. Rollo and Mr. Hall arraigned before the Police Magistrate, on a charge of illegally capturing a number of minature white fish on Friday last. It appeared that in a catch of 297 there were 37 white fish which were from two to three years of age—too young, the Inspector maintained, for eating. Mr. Sadleir appeared for the defence, and Mr. Waddell for the prosecution. Judgment was reserved.

ILLEGAL FISHING.

Two men, named Rollo and Hall, were charged by Inspector Kerr to-day before the Magistrate with catching the young of whitefish contrary to the statute. Mr. Kerr stated that he caught the accused bringing in a box of fish containing 300 herrings, among which were 33 young whitefish. The defence was that the fish were not young, and that it was impossible to avoid catching a few whitefish while using the legal net of 2½ inch meshes. After a large amount of evidence had been taken the case was enlarged.

PUBLIC ATTENTION IS DIRECTED to the following provisions of the Fishery Laws in the Province of Ontario:

Pickerel (Dore) cannot be caught from 15th April to 15th May.
Maskinonge cannot be caught from 15th April to 15th May.
Bass cannot be caught from 15th April to 15th May.
Speckled Trout, Brook or River Trout cannot be caught from 15th Sept. to 1st May.
Salmon Trout and Lake Trout cannnot be caught from 1st Nov. to 10th Nov.
Whitefish cannot be caught from 1st Nov. to 10th Nov.

Net or Seine fishing without licenses is prohibited.

Nets must be raised from Saturday night to Monday morning of each week.

Nets cannot be set or Seines used so as to bar canals or bays.

Indians are forbidden to fish illegally the same as white men.

Each person guilty of violating these regulations is liable to fine and costs, or in default of payment is subject to imprisonment.

No person shall, during such prohibited times fish for, catch, kill, buy, sell, or have in possession any of the kinds of fish mentioned above.

By order, W. F. WHITCHER,
Commissioner of Fisheries.

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT,
Ottawa, 2nd April, 1879.

THE FISHERY OUTRAGE.

A Pilot Who Saw the Poaching—Fishermen Attacked.

ST. JOHNS, Nfld., Oct. 5.—Thomas Goss, of Torbay, the only trustworthy witness so far procured of the alleged ill-treatment of the Newfoundland fishermen, has made a deposition before the Governor of Newfoundland. Goss testified that he was pilot on the Gloucestor schooner Minnesota last June, and that the people on the shore attacked the crew with stones when the latter attempted to fish for bait, compelling the Minnesota to withdraw. Goss' deposition has been transmitted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies and other cases will be brought under Imperial notice as soon as evidence is obtained.

THE NEW FISH.

(From the Gananoque Reporter.)

A few weeks ago we noticed the fact that the waters of the river here were swarming with a small silver-scaled fish, supposed to be the shad planted by Seth Green. Specimens and enquiries were sent to Mr. Wilmot, the gentleman in charge of the Government fish-breeding establishment at Newcastle, who writes in reply as follows:—

I have had several specimens sent me of the fish previously. They have been immensely numerous throughout the whole of Lake Ontario for the past four years. The whole shore from Kingston to Hamilton in June and July has been teaming with countless millions of these fish, some smaller and some larger than the specimen sent. These fish were not noticed in any particular way as to their numbers except within the time mentioned, namely, about four years. They were, however, at times taken, but very seldom, as far back as my memory serves me, say 30 years ago; but the specimens then taken were much larger and were called "moon eyes." Since they have appeared so very numerously many people have called them young shad, and have given credit to their origin to a few thousand of young shad planted off the mouth of the Genesee River by Seth Green, the fish culturist of New York State. This is, however, a great fallacy, as they are not shad at all. They may be more properly called a fresh water Gaspereaux, or "Ale wive," being almost identical in appearance to these fish found so numerously on the coast and in the rivers of the Atlantic. I have had specimens sent me from Lakes Huron and Erie, and from the Detroit River. One of these I forwarded to Prof. Baird, of the Smithsonian Institute at Washington, who is now the leading American Naturalist; he pronounces them *not to be shad*, yet he says they are vulgarly called at times "Mississippi Shad," but they have none of the characteristics of true shad, which are migratory salt water fish. I have seen a waggon load of them taken here at a single haul of a small seine. They are not a valuable fish for the table, yet in the absence of a better kind may be esteemed by many. They do not grow large, or at least we have not yet found them exceeding 7 or 8 inches. They appear to be largely fed upon by larger fish, and I think would be well adapted for planting in small inland lakes for food for other fishes. I do not think, however, that they will be much sought after as a delicacy for the table. I have to-day seen an immense number taken here in a small herring seine; their size was very small, not exceeding three to four inches in length. Until more is known of their nature and habits they may be safely called fresh water Gaspereaux.

The heavy catches of fish reported recently in the vicinity of Niagara represent the prosperity of the lake fishing season. From Collingwood, one of the centres of this industry, there comes the report that the past season has been the most prosperous our fishermen ever had. The catch has surpassed that of any former year, while the quality of the fish and the price received have been much better than what was hitherto obtained. One firm handled over 175,000 fish caught in Lake Huron and Georgian Bay, and cured 100,000 Lake Superior fish. Another firm secured 200,000 in Canadian waters, while a third, which tried American waters this year, did not meet with much success.

DOG AND GUN.

Opening of the Shooting Season.

The patiently-awaited-for time of the sportsman has arrived, and the woodcock are now at his mercy. The fact that game being so scarce that hunters of the day are forced to penetrate the woods hundreds of miles in quest thereof, will attest to the fact that the game laws cannot be too rigidly enforced. Had the generation past observed the economy in that direction which we are forced to observe, our sportsmen could enjoy their "outings" in the vicinity of their homes, returning always with abundantly filled bags. The wholesale destruction of our birds of passage has tended more to their extermination than the denuding of the forest. This destruction applies to fish also. Who does not remember from the supply in Lake Ontario was adequate to the demand of all the residents upon its banks? That day is passed owing in the destructive means used in catching them. Fishermen must now secure a license for their net privileges, while setting for fish in the spawning time in streamlets is strictly prohibited. Nor do the laws remain a dead letter on the Statute Book. Scarcely three months ago no less a personage than the President of the Long Point Game Association was fined heavily in Welland for an infraction of the game laws by the County Inspector. If he shot four quail, as alleged, each bird must have cost him 11.50—$46 being the amount of fine and costs. Inspector Kerr, too, has frequently given signal proof of his vigilance, to the sorrow of many refractory fishermen. In the 12, the 15, the 16, and 30 Mile Creeks, county of Lincoln, he made a raid on more than one occasion to advantage, securing in the shape of trophies the tackle hidden in the water for entrapping the unfortunate "finny tribe." The Provincial Legislature is to be commended for extending protection to game and fish. The result will be satisfactory to the sportsman, though, like all enactments at their origin the laws have yet to receive some alterations before they attain to perfection.

The announcement that the distress in Ireland is over will be hailed with satisfaction the world over. There is the usual controversy about the disposal of the funds, the "national" press declaring that tens of thousands of pounds have been misapplied, and seeking to make it appear that the British Government entered into a conspiracy to starve the people to death. One remarkable point has hitherto escaped observation in the press, and now that the famine has ceased and money is no longer needed, it may not be out of place to call attention to it. The famine figures were greatly exaggerated, in Connaught at least. For example, it was stated that in the village of Claremorris, County Mayo, which has a population of less than a thousand, 2,500 people were in want. The hamlet of Ballandine, in the same county, a big *green*, with a few shops and cabins scattered on each side, and containing about 500 souls, including the hands employed on Lord Oranmore's estate hard by, had 1,800 people in imminent danger of death. Ballinrobe, also in Mayo, with a population of 1,500, had 3,200 famine-stricken people; and so the figures ran in Castlebar, Newport, Westport, Ballina, Mulranny, and other places in Mayo. They were not quite so fanciful in Galway and Roscommon; still there was great exaggeration. The fact that these figures were accepted as correct by the Castle authorities shows how much those gentlemen know about one of the most important sections of the country they are supposed to govern.

The Windsor *Record* says:—"Winter operations at the Sandwich hatchery are now in full swing, but with a comparatively small stock of eggs, rendered unavoidable by the light catch of white fish in Detroit river this season. It had been intended to remove this fall all the vats and trays with which the building was first fitted, and replace them with the iron pails invented by Mr. Wilmot, and which proved so admirably calculated to supersede all other vessels for containing the fish eggs; but it early became evident that the pails used last winter, occupying one-half the ground floor, would easily hold all the eggs likely to be available, and hence no change was made. The pails are sufficient for fifteen millions, which number they now contain, and the vats will remain unused."

DOG AND GUN.

Opening of the Shooting Season.

The patiently-awaited-for time of the sportsman has arrived, and the woodcock are now at his mercy. The fact of game being so scarce that hunters of the day are forced to penetrate the woods hundreds of miles in quest thereof, will attest to the fact that the game laws cannot be too rigidly enforced. Had the generation past observed the economy in that direction which we are forced to observe, our sportsmen could enjoy their "outings" in the vicinity of their homes, returning always with abundantly filled bags. The wholesale destruction of our birds of passage has tended more to their extermination than the denuding of the forest. This destruction applies to fish also. Who does not remember when the supply in Lake Ontario was adequate to the demand of all the residents upon its banks? That day is passed owing to the destructive means used in catching them. Fishermen must now secure a license for their net privileges, while setting for fish in the spawning time in streamlets is strictly prohibited. Nor do the laws remain a dead letter on the Statute Book. Scarcely three months ago no less a personage than the President of the Long Point Game Association was fined heavily in Welland for an infraction of the game laws by the County Inspector. If he shot four quail, as alleged, each bird must have cost him $11 50—$46 being the amount of fine and costs. Inspector Kerr, too, has frequently given signal proofs of his vigilance, to the sorrow of many refractory fishermen. In the 12, the 15, the 16, and 30 Mile Creeks, county of Lincoln, he made a raid on more than one occasion to advantage, securing in the shape of trophies the tackle hidden in the water for entrapping the unfortunate "finny tribe." The Provincial Legislature is to be commended for extending protection to game and fish. The result will be satisfactory to the sportsman, though, like all enactments at their origin, the laws have yet to receive some alterations before they attain to perfection.

ATHLETIC.

WENTWORTH COUNTY COUNCIL.

First Meeting of 1880—Mr. Thos. Stock Re-elected Warden.

RELIEF FOR IRELAND.

The first meeting of the new County Council was held Tuesday afternoon in the Council Chamber at the Court House. The following members were present: Councillors Brown, Calder, Carpenter, A. F. Binkley, Cornell, Menzies, Begue, Flock, Jardine, Lawry, McKay, McKechnie, Gray, Sexton, Peebles, Sealey, Lovett, Stock and W. D. Binkley.

There was a very large attendance of spectators.

The Clerk read the roll and then announced that the first thing to be done was the election of a Warden.

It was moved by Dr. McKay, seconded by F. M. Carpenter, that R. McKechnie, Reeve of Dundas, be elected Warden. Lost.

It was moved by Mr. Sealey, seconded by Mr. W. D. Binkley, that Thos. Stock, Reeve of East Flamboro', be elected Warden for the current year. Carried.

The declaration by the clerk of Mr. Stock's election was received with loud cheers.

The Warden elect then took the declaration of office, and was conducted to his seat by Mr. Sealey.

The Warden said that he had a great sense of the honor which had been conferred upon him. He thanked the old members for their past kindness and for the liberal construction they had always put on any errors on his part. He had always felt a great deal of pleasure in presiding over this Council, and he was sure every member had tried to do everything to the best of their ability for the advantage of the county. Before sitting down he desired to draw attention to the relations of the county with the city of Hamilton, which were of the most pleasing character. He believed that the new members would continue to act as the old ones had done and that the present kind relations would remain undisturbed. Again returning thanks he took his seat.

On motion the rules of order for 1879 were adopted for the present year.

THE IRISH DISTRESS.

A petition was received from George M. Barton and others asking for a grant of $1,000 for the relief of the Irish sufferers.

It was moved by Mr. Peebles, seconded by Mr. T. H. A. Begue, that this Council deeply sympathize with our Irish brethren in the great affliction which has overtaken them and hereby resolve that the sum of $1,000 be granted in alleviation of their distress and that the Warden is hereby empowered to remit such sum to her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough by to-morrow's mail.

It was moved in amendment by Mr. Calder, seconded by Mr. Jardine, that the petition be referred to a committee of the whole to-morrow. Carried.

COMMITTEES.

The Reeves of the various municipalities were appointed a Committee to strike standing committees for the year.

The Council named Thursday, at 2 p.m., to confer with the Committee from the City Council respecting the Provincial Fair, after which the meeting adjourned till 10 a.m. to-day.

STARVING FISH.

The Lake Shore Strewed With the Dead and Dying—Why the Little Alewives Succumb.

Loungers about the wharves and strollers along the shores of the lake must have been particularly struck this season with the numbers of small dead and dying fish which float on the waters. Blown hither and thither by the wind and wafted from place to place by the waves the piscatorial remains carry with them odors of anything but a pleasant character. In miniature bays, and nooks, and crannies, westward past the Old Fort, and eastward in the direction of Scarborough, the dead fish are particularly and obnoxiously plentiful. What are they? where do they come from? and

WHY DO THEY DIE?

These questions which observers of natural phenomena have been of late asking. In reply to the first question, it is stated that they are not, as originally believed, young shad, but that they belong to the shad family and are known as alewives. Seth Green, the Rochester authority on all fishery questions, states that he cannot account for their appearance in Lake Ontario in such large numbers. Hitherto they have not appeared in very large schools, and their natural modesty has hidden them from the rude gaze of the public. To-day they are travelling the lake in thousands upon thousands, and they have even made their appearance in Seneca and Cayuga lakes, where they were never seen before and into which they find their way either by travelling up waterfalls, or by means of an underground channel with which they are acquainted. Seth Green is convinced that the fish are

DYING FROM STARVATION.

as they travel in such large schools that there is not food enough for all in one locality, and the consequence is that those who are at the head of the procession eat everything that suits the alewive taste and leave nothing for the unfortunates who bring up the rear. The fish can be seen along the lake shore in large numbers. A little creature comes to the surface, gives two or three kicks and proceeds again on its journey. Before it has gone far it comes to the surface of the water again, struggles for a short time and is then numbered among the dead that putrefy on the shore.—*Mail.*

THAT FISHERY AWARD.

Alleged Falsification of the Dominion's Figures.

By Telegraph to The Mail.

Gloucester, Mass., July 10.—Prof. Hind, employed to prepare an analysis of the documents of the Halifax Fishery Commission, is out in another letter, exposing the manner in which the official statistics of the Dominion fisheries were falsified, in order to enhance the importance of the colonial fisheries, and depreciate the value of the free admission of Canadian caught fish into the American markets.

A St John's, N.S., special says the United States war steamer Alliance arrived there yesterday, after a week's delay. She will complete the work of surveying the fishing banks.

Hon. J. C. Pope, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, leaves for England by the next Allan steamer from Halifax.

How He Fell.—The other day Mr. J. W. Kerr, Fishery Overseer for Ontario, visited Toronto in order to receive the returns necessary to be made by fishermen at this season of the year. After crossing to the Island, and seeing that all was right about Gibralter Point, Mr. Kerr thought, as the day was fine, and the ice was inviting, that he would walk across to the city, but herein he forgot that years had deprived him of that suppleness which is the salvation of youth on such dangerous footing. He had proceeded about a hundred yards from the shore when both feet passed from under him and he landed on his back on the ice, seeing more stars in a few moments than he supposed could possibly be stowed away in the firmament. Simultaneously with his tumble the ice cracked for a distance of about half a mile, the reports resembling very much the discharge of a park of artillery, the water gushing up in considerable quantity, and causing those who were disposed to laugh at the Overseer's mishap to slide for the shore at their best speed. A boy, however, remained in the vicinity and to him Mr. K. appealed to signal an ice-boat so that he could secure a passage across. The boy looked at Mr. K. for a moment, and then replied, "I guess not, Mister, there's too much water and cracking round yer for this chicken to go there." Mr. Kerr managed to recover his hat, walking-cane, muffler and other "dunnage," and hoisting his scarf on the end of his stick brought those in the ice-boat to his assistance, when he reached the metropolis without further mishap.

The thanks of all sportsmen are due to Colonel Drayson for what he did in this matter.

To give an instance of where proper rules and regulations are wanted in the case of nets and fixed engines :—About one mile from the fish-breeding establishment at Tadousac there is a fixed salmon net, which traverses the channel of the river Saguenay, and from which it is boasted that few salmon on their way up the Saguenay ever escape. The rent, payable to Government, in respect of this net is, no doubt, a heavy one, and probably goes some way to recoup the cost of the fish-breeding establishment, but I am convinced that the loss of revenue caused by the removal of this net altogether would be amply compensated for by the results which would be obtained by allowing the salmon a "free pass." The absolute removal of nets, however, is not necessary. All that is required is that they should be placed under proper restrictions, so that a fair and proper proportion of fish may be allowed to work up the rivers. They should all be under the superintendence of efficient officers, who are no respecters of persons, and whose duty it should be to see that the rules and regulations are strictly and rigidly enforced. The net to which I have referred belongs, I believe, to a gentleman and a sportsman, and I cannot conceive that the Government would have any difficulty in dealing with him. In the paragraph in the book to which I have referred will be found the following :—"An experience of many years on salmon rivers has proved to me conclusively that the best and, indeed, only way to increase the supply of salmon is to curtail the fixed engines of destruction at the mouths of the rivers."

I was fishing on the Marguerite for ten days, and saw five salmon altogether, in and out of the water, and every one of these bore the unmistakable mark of the net round its neck; not the net, probably, to which I have referred, for that is too good a one for a fish to escape from, but to other nets luckily not so strong, and which these fish had to encounter on their way up. As the salmon are becoming conspicuous by their absence from the Saguenay, I willingly pass on to the Government a suggestion made by a friend of mine, and that is, that a well-known artist, who fishes the Marguerite, and whose paintings of fish are so much admired, should be instructed by the authorities at Ottawa to paint a salmon for them, as this fish will soon be extinct, and it would be well for them to have a record of what it was like.

The sea trout fishing in the Saguenay district is, by all accounts, getting worse and worse every year. The Bergeronne, close by, is, I believe, reserved by the Government for the preservation of sea trout. By the kindness of some friends at court I obtained permission to fish this river, but on arriving there one morning I found five *habitants*, in boats, pulling out the trout as fast as they could put their lines in the water, and in addition to this the Government net was just about to commence operations for the day, so I had to come away and had no opportunity of trying the fishing.

I hope I may some day revisit Canada and have some more fishing there, but at all events I trust to hear of better results from Government regulations with regard to salmon than hitherto. Although I must own to having been disappointed in the matter of sport, yet on the other hand I can never forget the kindness and hospitality which I have received there—especially from those to whom I was a perfect stranger.

Yours, etc.,
EARDLEY-WILMOT B. HOLT.

London, Nov. 5, 1880.

SUCCESSFUL FISHING.—On Sunday last Coun. Sam. Splan reached Kincardine after spending five weeks at the Fishing Islands. He reports the season that has just closed for fishing, as being a grand success, in fact a greater success than during any previous year within the recollection of any of the fishermen. All the Kincardine fishermen were at the Islands and all have succeeded in hauling in as many of the finny tribe from the "vasty deep," as it was possible for them to properly preserve. Mr. Splan informs us that the fishermen in his employ were securing fish at the rate of from 200 to 215 packages per week. Others from this port were also working very long hours to preserve their catch. Mr. Splan is a very energetic, enterprising man of business and we are glad to see him back to town after a season of hard work. All the boats will be down in a couple of weeks. On account of the stormy weather Mr. Gordon's boat Bachelor, and Mr. Splan's Enterprise ran into Southampton harbor on Saturday evening for refuge.

PROSPERITY CREATES JEALOUSY.—Our enterprising fishermen have, it appears, been too successful in the estimation of some mean and contemptible fellow, who laid information before Mr. Muir, overseer of Fisheries, against some of the fishermen, for catching fish during the close season, which commenced on the 1st. On the 2nd they lifted their nets and the fish in them, and as soon as they landed on shore, the overseer of fisheries seized them by virtue of the fisheries Act. Informer, whoever thou art, blush; for thy meanness proclaims thy character.

The herring fishery on the east coast of Scotland is so far the most successful on record. It has been found impossible to cure the whole of the fish, and tons have been carted to the manure merchants. Large numbers of nets were yesterday lost by the Peterhead boats, owing to the weight of fish in them. One boat had to throw overboard 80 crans of fine fish.

Salmon are reported plenty in the upper waters of the Kennebecassis. It is to be regretted that notwithstanding the law forbidding the use of spears these unlawful weapons are still used by some unscrupulous parties in the vicinity. It is also reported that nets are used during the close season, and so set as to render it impossible for the fish to pass them on their way to the spawning grounds.

The game laws of this province, as amended at the last session, provide that the season for hunting woodcock shall open on August 1st, snipe, black and grey duck, wood ducks, and wild geese on August 15th, partridges and hares on September 1st, and deer on October 1st. The penalties for destroying game out of season are very heavy.

Dredging in the Lake of Tiberias.

In the spring of this year M. Lortet was charged by the French Government with a scientific mission to the Lake of Tiberias, to examine more especially the deep-water fauna. The extreme depth of this lake, about 250 mètres, is at its northern extremity, near where the Jordan enters it. The surface is 212 mètres below the level of the Mediterranean, but the sides afford evidence that it must formerly have been level with that sea; and it is thought probable the two were at one time in communication, which was afterwards interrupted by volcanic action, by which also the lake was depressed. Thus the water, receiving the stream of the Jordan, has lost much of its saltness, and become potable, though still slightly brackish. It was of interest, then, to inquire whether traces of a marine fauna might still occur in the deeper parts, where the denser water lay. M. Lortet's dredging operations in May yielded some twelve species of fishes, including several new forms. Fishes of the genus *chromis* swarm in the lake (seven species were met with). The male of this fish is known to hatch its eggs, keeping them in the mouth and gills, and the young remain there some time after hatching. Some ten species of molluscs were dredged; these were distributed very regularly at different depths, and a few were new. The *melanopsis* and *melania* were of marine character, transition forms between those of salt and those of fresh water. In addition, *diatoms*, *foraminifera*, and other low organisms were found in the fine ooze (of volcanic origin) on the bottom, and some shrimps, crabs, and tortoises were met with at the borders of the lake. No *alga* or *conferva* was taken, which is not surprising, the water being brackish, with a temperature of ×24 deg. The water at the bottom was not more brackish than that of the surface. At 250 mètres' depth the shells of dead *unio* had been rendered soft and friable (a sort of whitish chalk), the effect, apparently, of pressure.

FRASER RIVER SALMON.

British Columbia's Inexhaustible Fish Supply.

The first salmon, known to the Indians as the sawkwey (and to the whites as spring salmon), make their appearance in February, and continue to run the greater part of the year at intervals. A large number of these are white salmon, *i. e.*, the flesh is white in colour, and average, perhaps, sixteen to eighteen pounds in weight, although an average is only approximate in this and all sorts of salmon; still, the difference in weight of this variety varies to a greater extent than in any other.

The next run is the suckeye run, which commences in July and lasts four, five, and six weeks, the greater press, or bulk of them, being within three weeks or thereabout. This is the "boss run" of the season, and the one to which Fraser river is indebted for its notoriety as a salmon stream. This is the harvest of the canneries, no other run approaching it in any respect. Every effort is made during this run to "make hay while the sun shines," and the fisherman's success for the year's work is mainly dependent on a good suckeye run. The supply of fish is always greater than the demand, or, in other words, twice as many fish can generally be caught as can be cared for, and the energy of the cannery proprietors is strained to the utmost to push the work to its greatest extent, and put up or can salmon to the fullest capacity of their appliances, leaving such work as lacquering cans, labelling and boxing to such time as the run slackens and time is not so precious. Most years no lack of fish exists, and no conjecture could be made of the probable numbers coming into the river, or how many fish could be taken were there enough canneries to put them up. A fair average for this variety would be seven pounds. They are very much of a size, and do not vary much in weight.

The second run of sawkwey or spring salmon comes about the 1st of August, and does not present any material difference from the first run, except that there are a larger proportion of white salmon in this than the earlier run. The external appearance of the fish does not in any way indicate whether it is white or red, the difference in colour only becoming apparent by cutting it so as to expose the flesh to view. The white salmon is not thought to be as fine for the table as the other, but this is only prejudice.

The next run is the cohoe run, which commences about the 1st of September, the fish being much the same weight as the Suckeye, about seven pounds. The next run is the qualoch, or dog-toothed salmon, wich is identical with the red-fish of Idaho, lately described by Captain Bendire. These come about the latter part of September, and average, say ten pounds. The last run of the season is a large trout, or salmon trout, a very handsome and decidedly game fish, and, in my humble opinion, a much more desirable fish for the table, either fresh or salted, than any others in our water. This runs last during September, October, and November, and an average might be put at twenty pounds, although they, like the sawkwey, have a wide range in respect to weight. Every second year we have a run of hone holia, or humpbacked salmon. These come in large quaatities, are caught while fishing for the other varieties, are to some extent eaten by the Indians, but never by the whites; are never salted or canned, being worthless for either purpose. and are detested by the fishermen on account of the trouble of taking them ont of the nets and throwing them away. Their average weight is six pounds, but as these fish possess some characteristics widely different from other varieties of salmon in general, I reserve any remarks concerning them at present, but will probably treat of them in a subsequent article. The greatest weight of any Fraser river salmon I have any record of is fifty-five pounds.—*Inland Sentinel.*

For the past three years the catch of whitefish in Lake Michigan has been small, owing, the fishermen say, to the prevalance of northeast winds. Recently the fish took a sudden departure from the southern end of the lake, abruptly cutting off the supply from the Chicago market. This unusual movement is attributed partly to an extraordinary influx of "sheepheads," but more to a sudden and remarkable change in the temperature of the water from extreme cold, lasting well into July, to a very high temperature for Lake Michigan. The whitefish live principally upon worms and small shell-fish, and their chief enemy is the Mackinaw trout.

The season for salmon net fishing at the Tweed just closed has been the worst ever known, and the lessees of fisheries must be heavy losers in consequence of the unproductiveness of the river, as well as the low prices, which have been 4d. and 5d. per lb. less than those of last year. The scarcity of salmon and grilse has been most noticeable since July, from which time there should be a great increase of these fish. Trout, although numerous, were below the average. The rental of the river has this year fallen from £14,000 to £13,000. In the month of August the Berwick Salmon Fishing Company were 9,000 fish short of the catch for the same month last year. There is at present no disease in the river.

CATCHING CANADIAN EELS.

The Fisheries of the St. Lawrence River.

A Norman Contrivance for Securing the Slippery but Ingenuous Fish—How Eel Weirs are Made.

RIVIERE-OUELLE, Canada, Oct. 12.—The eel fisheries of the St. Lawrence are probably the most productive in the world, and the quality of its eels is considered to be unsurpassed. This mysterious fish seems to hold its own against the demands of civilization better than most others. For the eel fisheries of this town and some other important places are now as productive as they were when the colonists established them in the seventeenth century. Nevertheless, the eel seems to be disturbed by steamers and factories, for it is no longer found about Quebec, where the Jesuit Father Le Jeune saw the Indians taking such great quantities in the beginning of the seventeenth century. The great arm of the sea, the St. Lawrence, is an inexhaustible breeding and feeding ground; at the same time the shores offer comparatively few places suitable for taking eels, and they expose themselves to man during only three or four weeks each year. It seems likely, therefore, that this valuable supply of food will remain abundant here for an indefinite period.

The Canadian method of taking eels is still the cheap, simple, and efficient one adopted by the Norman colonists. The eel fishery is a long fence of wicker or basket work, running down the beach from high to low water mark. Sheltered bays and estuaries having wide beaches of mud are the most advantageous places. Such a bay here is fringed with these fences, about 200 yards apart, and some of them as long as 500 yards. Each fence or weir is divided into sections from 30 to 60 yards long, the sections growing gradually shorter as they descend the beach. The lower end of each section overlaps a little the upper end of the next section, so that the general line of the weir is somewhat zig-zag. The whole fishery is made of rough, round sticks cut in the woods. The weir is made of trimmed saplings, about 1 inch in diameter, woven very snugly among upright stakes 3½ feet high and about 1½ feet apart. It is built, during spare times, in panels 10 feet long for convenience in moving and repairing. Each panel consists of a rough frame of two beams held together by cross-bars 2½ feet long. The stakes are driven into holes in one of the beams, and sustained by three braces to each panel; the lower end of the brace is driven into a hole in the other beam and wedged, and the upper end, being provided with a hole, is slipped over the stake. A long stake is placed every three or four feet to support a net that rises from the top of the fence to high water to prevent the eels from going over the weir. The panels are taken to the beach during slack times in the summer, and placed end to end so that the wicker-work matches closely, and the frames are weighted down with stones. Where the bottom is soft the stakes are sometimes driven into the mud instead of being supported by a framework. The net is rigged only at the beginning of the fishing. And the whole is taken up after the fishing is done. The lower end of each section of the weir has a wing from 10 to 20 feet long projecting from the inland or upper side, and at an obtuse angle to the fence. The upper end of the next section begins about two feet from the wing, and a little below it, to leave a passage for the eels to enter the fishery. They come in with the flood tide to feed, and when the tide ebbs they begin to go seaward along the beach. They meet the fence and follow it down toward deep water, but the wing turns them through the opening—a foot wide—that exists between it and the lower end of the fence. This opening discharges into an inclosure shaped like an arrow-head, about five feet long and four feet wide. As the net surrounding this inclosure prevents them from going over it, they follow their instinct to go with the current, and pass out of it and into a funnel at the point of the arrow-head inclosure. The entrance of this funnel is shaped like an ellipse, long enough to be as high as the fence of the inclosure, and about a foot wide, to receive the ends of the fence of the inclosure. It contracts, in about 3 feet, to form a neck 6 inches in diameter. A cotton sleeve, or short pipe, is tied about the end of the neck. The eels coming down pass readily through the sleeve, but they do not easily find its mouth in trying to go up. This neck of the funnel passes through the centre of the bottom of a bottle-shaped vessel, also of strong wicker-work; it is about 1½ feet in diameter and 4 feet long. The neck of this bottle passes into a strong box from 3 to 6 feet long, and 3 feet square on the ends, made of inch boards. The funnel, the bottle, and the box are weighted down by stones placed on the timbers that constitute their foundations, or on withes passing over them. They must be strongly made and well secured to resist the action of the seas and current, and all the joints between them and in the fence are made tight with spruce boughs. The bottom of the net is laced to the top of the wing and the fence and around the top of the arrow-head inclosure. A trap-door exists in the upper side of the bottle and the box. These weirs last from nine to ten years; but the nets, the most expensive item, are not so durable.

The eels make their appearance with the spring-tides that occur near the end of September. If these tides come during the last week of that month the fishing is likely to remain good four weeks—until the end of the next spring tides, towards the last of October. But some years it is productive during only the first three weeks of October. A high wind seems to make the eels seek shelter in the bays. In such weather at a single tide one of these weirs has taken as many as 3,000 eels; but the average good take is 1,000 to 1,500. In 1870, the last year of the earthquakes along the St. Lawrence, 100,000 eels were taken about the mouth of Rivière-Ouelle. Perhaps they found the depths of the sea so much disturbed that they concluded to try living on land for a while. They often pack themselves in the boxes with astonishing compactness, each one dead and straight; they sometimes crowd in with such force as to spring the planks open, or even to rip them off. The eels of Rivière-Ouelle command the highest price, but very excellent eels are taken in large quantities at Petite-Rivière St. François, St. Joachim, and a few other places. The method of curing the eels is very simple and inexpensive. They are carted from the boxes to the house, and packed whole in tight barrels, with two ounces of salt to every pound of eels. After 15 days they are washed, to remove the slime, and then packed, still whole, in flour barrels, each layer being dusted with a little salt. A barrel holds from 135 to 145, and the average weight of the eels is so uniformly two pounds that they are sold either by the 100 eels or the 200 pounds at from $7 to $8. But eels weighing five and six pounds each are not very uncommon, and last year one was taken that weighed nine and a quarter pounds. They are of a greenish-brown hue on the back and a very clean white on the belly; and their flavour is certainly remarkably fine. They are sold in Quebec, and from there are distributed chiefly in the Eastern townships and along the upper St. Lawrence. Many poor people pick up a good number of eels at low tide by following their serpentine tracks on the beach, and spearing them as they lie hidden in little mounds of mud. The farms here—long, narrow strips of land from 120 to 240 yards wide—have each a water-front that sometimes produces about as much profit as the fields. The farmers either attend to their own weirs or rent the privilege for a considerable sum. Perhaps this Canadian system of fishing might be applied with profit in some of our large bays and rivers, where now the little eel-pot is the only device employed.—*N. Y. Times.*

Sir

23 January 1880. –

I Have the Honor to receive from you, a copy of Mr Edward Staulon's letter, To The Hon: The Minister, dated Ottawa, 16. January 1880, applying for permission to use 66 feet, on the East, and on the Western shore of the Staulon point fishery Reserve of Toronto Island, "free gratis, I presume", for private purposes. – –

Mr Staulon states, "I make this application, because it is my in= "tention to put up a large Hotel on the point, and make it a private re= "sort for the Citizens of Toronto during the Summer Months." – –

"I also propose to plant with trees, sod and otherwise ornament "the ground asked for. – – And to take other necessary steps to secure "it from being washed away". –

"I am now in possession of three Acres to the South of the "lot lately given to me by the City of Toronto, and my request is to "enable me to get the whole Sixty Six feet, surrounding my old "plot, and that given me by the City". –

"I will send a small plan to illustrate the application" –

In obedience to your instructions, I have the Honor to report, that the 66 feet fishery reserve, on Toronto Island, is set apart ex= clusively for fishing purposes, and that applied for now, is held in use, by Mr Patrick Gray, fisherman at present, and has been during the last 15 years, as a licensee, under an annual license, I cannot be otherwise than Just, in this matter, and I mean to act fair, and above board. –

I therefore beg most respectfully to report, for your inform= ation, that on the East side of Staulons point in Toronto Bay, as per plan, occasionally hauls for Suckers, in the Sucker season are made during each year. – – –

And in the second place, on the west side of Staulon's point, the Seine hauling for Suckers, in the Suckers season is very frequent, and a great many are caught there by Mr Gray, every year. – –

To enable you to be the best Judge yourself, in this case, I send you herewith, a Map of the Toronto Island,

1.

with the different Seine hauling grounds in use, marked thereon, and by which you will also discover, that the Stanlon old lot, is only set down as 2, acres, instead of 3 acres, an error of one acre,

On this same map, you will also please find, that the lots width, as per scale of Stanlons point, at the place, marked by me, where Stanlon is about to build his, New Hotel, is about 150' feet wide, from which please deduct two chains of 66' feet, 132' feet, and 18' feet only remains as the present of a lot, lately given as it appears to, Mr Edward Stanlon, by the Corporation of the City of Toronto. –

I was in the Toronto Police Court, myself, on the 9th inst. when a Lawyer, a friend of Stanlons, came across to me in the Court room, where I was standing, and said to me; Stanlon wants the "Exclusive rights of the fishery reserve, in front of the place on the Island, where he purposes to build his, New Hotel, and so as to prevent all Seine hauling there?" – – – Thus; you will please find, he has in his letter laid before you, during his recent visit to Ottawa; only a part of what he wants, the fisheries department, to do for him. – – –

In my humble opinion Edward Stanlon, has only yet got a fourth part interest, in the 2, acres, leased property, the old lot, he refers to, and the 3 Houses thereon. – His brother John, his Sisters, Mrs Emilly Duncan, a Widow, with 2 children, and Miss Mary Anne Stanlon, all live there, being equally interested in the old Homestead property, at Stanlons point – Toronto Island; and entitled to share and share alike under their late fathers will. – –

Stanlon is not a fisherman, does not make this application for fishing purposes, but merely does so, for private purposes, – alone. – If he did apply for a fishery on the Island, he could be accommodated at some place not specially occupied. –

And as the present licensee Mr Pat'k Gray, is a fisherman, paying annually a fair rental for his fishing privileges for

certain Seine hauling grounds of the Toronto Island, fisheries, and which he has been doing annually to my certain personal knowledge, for the last 15. years. – I cannot do otherwise, as between man and man, in Justice to all concerned, in my public capacity, than report against Mr Edward Scanlon's application being granted, and I beg most respectfully to report against it, accordingly. – I can discover nothing in the Fisheries act, rules, orders, or regulations in Council to Justify me in recommending Mr Scanlons application to be granted. – Besides, Mr Whitcher, the Commissioner of Fisheries has again and again, pointed out to me, that the fishery reserve on Toronto Island is set apart for fishing purposes alone. –

Hon: Minister, I Have &c.

&c. &c. &c. John Wker F.O.

P.S. – In consequence of bad weather, I could not get over to Toronto Island, or I would be able to say more. –

J. W. Stern, F. Overseer. –

Sir 24, January 1880. –

I Have the honor to receive your letter of the 19th instant, in which you say; "Please send here, a rough sketch "of the fishery limits laid down, and licensed on Toronto Island, "making the Names of licensees on each station, and the fishing "Shanties, boat houses, or other buildings erected on these sta= "tions". –

In reply, I beg most respectfully to comply with your request, by sending you a map, of Toronto Island, with all the information you require marked thereon. – –

"Also explain the necessity for such extensive holdings "as those appear to be in Licenses to Gray, and Ward". – –

In reply, I have the Honor to explain, that there is more in the first appearance of this thing, than there is in the actual substance, however, I see no longer any necessity there is, for such apparent extensive holdings, being continued in Grays and Wards possession under the license in their names Jointly, except as a protection to the unoccupied

fisheries, and to keep off greedy and unscrupulous trespassers. –

I may however, here report that the licensed fisheries to Gray, and Ward, are by no means so extensive at present, as they used to be, a few years ago. – For instance, no part of Toronto Bay, nor the Inlets, nor the Island ponds; are now occupied, nor Seine hauled, nor fished in by Gray, and Ward, Only places set forth, are at present fished in by them in proper seasons, as marked on the plan, as in actual use, and occupation. – Those rough fish, Seine hauling grounds, are of very short spring duration, "each spring" – and a little in the bend each fall. –

The balance of the Toronto Bay, &c. &c. &c, being exclusively set apart, for the use of the angling community of the City of Toronto, by orders from the department. –

Neither Gray, nor Ward, have Boat Houses. Ward has a fishermans Shanty, near the Gap, it is marked on the map, And Gray has a shanty for Old, Martin, a fisherman, near his wharf, and he has his own old fishermans Cottage near his Hotel, and except Stanlon's Boat House, there is no other Building of any kind on the Island fishery Reserve. –

Mr Burns, Ice Merchant, applied and got leave from the City Corporation of Toronto, to put up his Ice House on Maskinonge point, their property, I believe Gray has an interest in it. –

All on the south part of the Island fishing grounds, might be laid off, for Seine hauling: say from Gibraltar point, down to about one half mile east of Mr David Wards house as marked on the Map. –

Have you had any other applications, and from whom?

In reply, I have to report, that I have had none recently, except from Mr Blye of Grafton, and another man, a Mr Black, from Belleville, for a license to catch Mud Cats, or Cat fish, in Toronto, and Ashbridges Bays, with Stoop Nets. – This however upon my

recommendation you would not permit. --

About 3 years ago, Mr Andrew Pat, of Collingwood, applied, verbally, and I think he wrote me. -- I told him the terms, I have not heard from him since. --

William Ward, son of David Ward, applied about the same time, but it was then deemed advisable to give him no licence, he manages his fathers fishing. -

Other Collingwood fishermen, have sometime spoken to me about fishing off Toronto Island, but they grudge paying more than $5, for a Boat licence, which is too insignificant, considering that Toronto, is a magnificient fish market. --

And James Fraser, Son of the Light House Keeper applied, and did not succeed. - -

And except what Stanlous Lawyer friend said to me, as already reported to you none have since applied except the old licensees. - -

If Messrs Robert, Mead, Edward, or John Stanlous or any resident on Toronto Island, or otherwise after the want a fishing ground, not at present occupied, or in use, and in actual use, by the present licensees, who always pay well and punctual. --

I can see nothing at present there, one and all being accommodated, and I will with pleasure lay off the grounds "Seine hauling", as referred to, when ordered by you. -- There may be some grumbling by Dave Ward. -- And with due respect,

Hon: Minister, I Have &c.

&c. &c. &c.

John Mc Crae

J. C.

My dear Sir, 4. February 1880.

I send you herewith this day, your Stoop Net license for your Sets. — Comply in every respect, with the Size of the meshes of each Net. — And be very particular about the places you set in. — As per instructions set forth in the license. — And please let me have the License fee, $12, as soon as possible. — —

I sent large books of Leslieville, a Spearing license on yesterday. — Should any other person's spearing Houses be put out, or Cat fish Joe, or any other one, be fishing without a license; please write me at once, — "Privately."

Yours Truly,
John W. Kerr,
Fishery Overseer.

Mr Wm B. Woollard,
Fisherman,
Leslieville, Ont.

My dear Gordon. — 4. February 1880,

On receipt of this, will you be so good as to go down to your G. T. Railway station at Duffins Creek, and find out if Mr Bligh of Grafton, has taken that Stoop Net, you and I, saw in the Freight House, away home, or to Frenchman's Bay. — —

And if he sent any more Stoop Nets up from Grafton, or if he is fishing them in the Bay. —

please answer, at once and oblige,

Yr truly,
John W. Kerr,
F. Overseer.

John Gordon Esq.
F. Guardian,
Duffins Creek. —

P.S.

please go up to the Bay, and look around there.

Yr
J. W. Kerr,
F. O.

Fish Pound. — Fish Hoop Nets. —

In Cash Meadows Bay, Lake Ontario, for the purpose of Catching Catfish only, and no other kind of fish whatever.. Said nets to be no less than two and one half inches in the mesh ("extension measure") and to be set so as not to bar the Channels. — No fry to be caught or destroyed by these nets. This license to expire on the 31st of March 1880. — Rate $12. Dated 2d February 1880

Sir, —

5. February 1880.

I have the Honor to receive your letter of the 2d instant, in which you quote from my letter of the 28th ultimo, thus: "Your letter of 28th instant, suggests that there is a necessity for the Toronto Island fishermen to land on that part of the point, called Scanlon's point."

"Please explain why this is necessary".

It is, and was always necessary, when the Ice is breaking up or unsafe in Toronto Bay, for to have Scanlon's point, as a starting and landing place for the fishermen of the Island. — Here I have seen their Market Boats, bottom upside for weeks, when not on the water, and there I have landed myself &c.. — It being the safest, the nearest to the City, and only place of departure, with fish, for Market, landing at the Queens wharf, from which the fish have, were or are taken on either hand sleighs or by Horse and Waggon to the Fish Market. — This has been repeatedly done by all the fishermen, "at stated periods" — The fish being brought on hand sleighs, to Scanlon's point, over the Ice on the Inlets, long after the Ice on that portion of the Toronto Bay, next the City, had become honey combed, rotten, and unsafe to walk up — . — —

Besides, only a few years ago, Mr Whitcher may remember, John Ward, a Toronto Island, fisherman, was drowned, immediately off the outside west point, being capsized in a squall, which would have been avoided, had he landed at Scanlon's point, so I was told soon after; And where John Ward, had landed me, about 2 Weeks, before his death; and before he got drowned — —

I hope my reply, will be found satisfactory. - -

"Also state why you think Stanlow should pay $30. for that small space when the other holders of licenses have had all the fishing grounds around the Island for a smaller sum". - -

In reply to this! I beg most respectfully to report, that an ulterior object, (and not for fishing,) being, the Stanlow's intention as per his letter of application, dated 16th of January last, twice $30. would not be too much to charge annually. Keeping as I do, the Stanlows ulterior object in view. - - please refer to my letter to you of 16th of March 1876, - with an application from Mr Wm Ward - fisherman, and the reply thereto. -

I hope you will this (my) reply, satisfactory. - -

"There is no occasion whatever for you to "smooth things" with Gray, and Ward; they cannot expect to monopolize the whole of the fisheries, in that vicinity". -

In reply, I may here state to you candidly, that I am in unison, with what you here say; However, Gray is the only person, who has fished in the vicinity of Stanlows point, for some years past. - Had the license to Messrs Ward, Hurman, and Gray, not been drawn up so as to include all the fisheries, and fishery Reserves, on, and about Toronto Island; approved of, by the department, "altho' not being all fished", - There would be now no end to the number of shanties erected thereon. - -

Two similar cases, to this present, have heretofore come under the special notice of the F. department; I allude to applications from Wm Ward, who applied for leave to build a House on the fishery reserve, as already alluded to herein by me. - -

The other case, James Hurman, son of Light House Keeper, Toronto Island, who in the year 1876, took out a License, - fee $10, as per letter 25, april 1876, - to fish off Ashbridges bay, in Lake Ontario; when however the ulterior object he had in view, became known, he was not allowed to build a fishermans shanty on the Reserve. - -

So far as I am personally concerned, I would like

very much to see the Edward Stanton, become a genuine licensed fisherman, -- I feel certain it will never detract anything from his high position, "as Sculler of the World", to have a genuine fishery with the point, some place about Gibraltar point, where he could catch fish to supply the inmates of his New Hotel. --

"The Hon: The Minister having already given his decision as to the disposition of the Stanlow point fishery, I have not since had any thought in my breast, remote or foreign to his will and pleasure. -- I hope all my explanations will be satisfactory to you. -- And with due respect

I have &c,

Hon: Minister,
&c. &c. &c.

John W. Kerr
Fishery Overseer.

My dear Sir,

9. February 1880. --

Will you be pleased to find your License herewith. --

And will you be pleased to inform young Thomas, from me if he wishes to continue Seine hauling in Niagara River, at Gilmour Road, and selling the fish, he will have to pay a License fee, and if after you tell him so, he persists in his Seine fishing; I will have to fine him, and confiscate his Boat, and Seine. --

To turn the American Silver dollars, into Bankable Money here - I was charged 10¢, in every dollar. ---

However, that is nothing between you, and I,

My kind regards to Mrs and the Boys, and believe me,

Yours truly,

John W. Kerr,
Fishery Overseer.

Mr
Chester A. Harris,
"Fort Erie. }

License, # 30. -- One Seine, 100 yards long. -- "For to fish in the Niagara River, at Fort Erie, all south of the Gilmour Road, up the River, as far as the Old Grand Trunk Pier, a distance of about 2, miles. -- Dated at Hamilton, 15. January 1880. --

Sir,— 31. January 1880.

I have the Honor to apply to you, for the usual Annual Seine Seaning licenses, for Messrs David Ward, and Patrick Gray, licensees of Toronto Island Fisheries, at the usual rate of $20, each, for the year 1880. —

In making out the Licenses in "duplicate," please mark from there, the fisheries, and reserve around Stanlows point, say north from Mr Patrick Gray's holding from the Corporation of the City of Toronto, marked on the Island Map, as Lot No: 82, containing 5.05 Acres. —

Also please send me Boat license, for Mr David Ward; this to be the same as last year. —

And a Seine hauling license for Mr Patrick Gray, for to Seine land in Lake Ontario, immediately west of the Stumber, for rough fish. — To be the same this year, as last year, in the amount. — —

Hon: Minister I Have &c

W. G. K. John W Kerr F. O.

Monday. 9. February 1880.

At Toronto, making enquiries about Speckled Trout, as per anonymous letter in the Mail, visited Taylors, Bleghorns & Coy. Milton's and Thomas Winfields, see my report, dated 13. Feby. Thence across in an Ice Boat, to the Island; — went out at 9. a. m. came in at 3. p. m. Miles 46. My fare $2. Ice Boat 30¢, dinner, tea and bed 75¢. —

COMMUNICATIONS.

SPECKLED TROUT.

To the Editor of The Mail.

SIR,—For some time past speckled trout in large quantities have been publicly offered for sale at the fish stores of the city. The close time for these fish runs from the 20th October to the 1st of April. Are there no fishery inspectors whose duty it is to see that these delicious little fish are not illegally destroyed during their breeding season when they are not fit for food? It is not only illegal for any one to kill them at this season, but it is also illegal for any one to have them in their possession, any one so doing being liable to a fine of from $8 to $20, one-half of which goes to the informer.

Yours, &c.,

VIATOR.

Toronto, 6th Feb.

Tuesday. 10. February 1880.

At Toronto Island, and Toronto, home to Hamilton, went out at 9. a. m. came in 3. p. m. Miles 46. — My paid day before, Breakfast 25¢, dinner 30¢. —

Sir,

31. January 1880.

I have the Honor to apply to you, for a Seine hauling licence for Mr. David Tyson, of Clinton to fish a Seine in the 15th Mile pond, township of Louth, 150. yards long, at the rate of Ten dollars, which must terminate on the 15th day of April next, at the rate of $ 10, for only that length of time.

The Honble

Hon. Minister, &c. &c.

I have, &c. &c.

John [illegible] — J. [illegible]

Sir,

31, January 1880.

I have the honor to apply to you for a Seine hauling licence, for Mrs Charlotte, and Francis Reid, of the township of Toronto, near Port Credit. — "For a Seine Hauling licence to fish a 250 yard Seine in Lake Ontario, between the west pier of the Credit Harbour, and the residence of the late Thomas Slade, in the Township of Toronto — "Salmon Caught to be liberated alive".

Also the privilege of fishing 600. yards of pike gill net, in the River Credit, and Marsh; say up as far as the first rapid. —

I recommend the licence to be issued this season, at $ 10. licence fee. —

Hon. Minister,

I have &c.

H. H. H.

John W. Kerr Jun.

SEINE FISHING.

SIR,—I observed a paragraph in a city paper a short time back that a petition was in course of signature for the purpose of preventing the catch of fish by seine in the Bay and marsh of Toronto. I would like to be informed where it is to be found, as I desire, and I trust many others also, to sign such a petition, and I certainly hope that those persons interesting themselves in preserving the fish from such wholesale and wanton destruction by seine fishing will endeavour by every means in their power to push the matter to its utmost extent, and put an effectual stop to such proceedings in the future. I am informed by a person, a fish dealer in this city, who seems acquainted with the fact, that seine fishing, both in the Marsh and the Don, is a common, I may almost say a daily practice, during the fishing season, and thousands of fish of almost every kind and size are annually caught by persons dragging small nets, or placing them in such a position that little trouble is experienced in beating the water and driving both large and small fish in shoals into nets placed across small channels commonly described as fish runs. Of late years fishing with bait has almost been a sport of former days, as there is at the present time no fish of any consequence to be caught. Surely the citizens of Toronto, especially those who are fond of real good legitimate sport have some cause to complain, and I certainly hope no license will be accorded to any person to use seines in future, within the Bay, the Marsh or the Don, and that all, if any have been hitherto granted, will be immediately cancelled, and no more licenses granted for at least some years to come.

A CITIZEN.

Wednesday, 11. February 1880. —

At Jordan, and St Catharines, to meet John W. Kerr, Pound Net, fisherman Ridgeway. — Thence back to the Straights, and B. bay, — Larry Mitchell and Thomas May, paid $ 1. each $ 2, for spearing licence went out at 8. a. m. came in at 6. p. m. Miles 74, — Ry fare $ 2, dinner 50¢, Horse and Buggy $ 1.50¢. — Edward Kerr, with me —

11. —

Sir

7. February 1880. –

I have the Honor to send you Bank draft No: 261. for the sum of Thirty dollars. – –

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for Boat Licenses received, and delivered during the past year, of 1879, but only paid for now, and accounted for to the department. – –

1. Mr William Ingledew,	Bronte, –	Lake Ontario, – –	$ ¢ 5.00.
2. " Patrick Stand. –	Winona. –	do. –	5.00.
3. " John Stand. –	Grimsby.	do. –	5.00.
4. " David Tyson. –	Clinton,	do. &c.	5.00.
		Total. –	$ 20.00¢.

Will you be pleased to send me Boat licenses, for Nos 1. 2, and 3. for this current year. – To be the same as last year, except that the fee in each, is to be only $5. – –

The fee last year, to Messrs John and Patrick Stand, was $10. each. – But in consequences of their loss of gill nets, by storms; I beg most respectfully to recommend that you will be pleased to receive the five dollars, now sent, as in full for the past year. – and with due respect. –

Sir^s

Your Obt. Svt. &c. &c.

I Stand &c.

Inl. W. Stand,

J. O.

Thursday. 12. February 1880.

1. On B: Beach, Mortimer Corey, paid me $2. – on a/c^t of fill nets, fished last season. – John Stagel $1. – I paid it for him, he owes me 40¢, and Thomas Jones, paid me $1. for spearing license. – Met F. N. Corey, on the B. Road, he shied off. Told Jonathan Corey, I paid $5. Boat license fee for him for 1879. out of 1/2 fine imposed on F. N. Corey, and Crew, which they paid, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 5. 30. p. m. Miles 24, St. and B. $1.50¢, dinner 50¢. 2. Men with me. –

Telegraph 32¢.

My dear Sir, 9. February 1880.

Will you be pleased to send me your licence money, $30. for this year. – I tried to get a reduction, but failed. Will endeavour to get it allowed to you on the Stoop Nets, you spoke about fishing. – I have your Licence. – I hope your mother is better, and with kind regards to all, believe me,

Mr John Everitt,
Fisherman,
Fort Erie.

Yrs Truly,
John W. Kerr,
F. Overseer.

Sir, 13. February 1880.

I have the honor to send you herewith, an anonymous letter, I cut from the Toronto Mail, paper – of the 7th instant, about speckled Trout, in large quantities, being publicly offered for sale, at the Fish and Game stores, Yonge st, Toronto.

In connection with this matter, I beg most respectfully to state, that I visited the stores of Messrs Bilton, Cleghorn and Taylor, Yonge st. Toronto, on last monday, saw the Invoices – from Fraser & Boy, – of Quebec, on which there was a Certificate that the speckled Trout to Toronto. –

Mr Bilton, told me Mr Fraser, had written them to say; that he had permission from the Fisheries department, Ottawa, to ship those speckled Trout, to Toronto. –

And if any person meddled with them, he would st[illegible] between them and harm. – –

I was afforded every facility, by the above persons, in the discharge of my duty. –

Mr Thos; Winfield, 71. Colborne – st. Toronto, a Commission Merchant, who received a Consignment of Speckled Trout, from Quebec, and sold to Taylor, & Boy, gave me satisfactory information, about those he received and disposed of. –

I send you a letter attached from young Cleghorn; also a long one, from some hurry body hailing from Newcastle; who dare not put his own Name to it,

I Have the,
John W. Kerr
F.O

Hon; Minister of
F. F. F.

13.

Private.

My dear Sir

Your's received, you can have the 15 pound; at the terms you propose; but you should send me on receipt of this, six dollars; half the amount of license fee you offer for it. --

Did I not tell you, the last day I saw you with Mr. Hobb, that I would get you a license for it. - This I have since done. --

I wish now to ask you a straight question, and I wish you to answer me in a truthful way; where, and how does Dick Gilbert, catch so many Catfish: Answer me like a man! When you send me up the $6. I will send down the license.

Mr. David Tyson, -
Fishermen. -
Bermudiana.

Yours Truly. --
John W. Kerr,
J. Overseer,

16. February 1880. -

Sir, I have the honor to apply to you, for a renewal license, for Mr Thomas Ramney, of Fort Erie; - "For to fish two pounds, with single pots, in Lake Erie; Between point Abino, in the township of Bertie, and Nares point, in the township of Stumbastone; and County of Welland". - At the rate of $30. each pound, in all $60. - for this current year; to be paid in advance. - -

Mr Thomas Ramney, paid me $60, last year, see my letter to you, dated 27th of August 1879. - And as he only commenced to fish in August, and had to abandon fishing altogether in September, in consequence of the weather being so stormy, and rough; tearing and wearing his nets badly, and swamping the stakes and nets out of position, on to the beach. -

Mr Thomas Ramney, solicits a license for this year, (only) at this reduced rate of $60; so as to get a fair start, early this year.

Under the circumstances, I would most respectfully, recommend the same for your consideration. -

The Hon;
The Minister,
V. T. V.

I Same, V.
John W. Kerr
J. O.

Sir,

13. February 1880. –

I have the honor to send you Bank draft, 4 40's, for the sum of Thirty Seven dollars. – –

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows;

1. Mr John Everitt, Fort Erie, License for Seine fishing in the Niagara River, already received, now sent you on acct.		$ c. 25. 00.
2. Thomas Jones, Spearing license, B. Bay,		1. 00,
3. John Stagel. – do, do. – ones 40,		1. 00,
4. Thomas May, do, do. –		1. 00.
5. David Crist, do, do		1. 00.
6. Larry Mitchell, do, do,		1. 00,
7. Mortimer Leary, On acct of Stirring gill net fishing, in L. Ontario, for 1879, B. beach,		2. 00.
8. Mr St. L. Bastien, For license for B. beach, in B. bay, for past year, 1879. – Please send a license for this year 1880. – To be the same as last year. –		5. 00
	Total	$ 37. 00

Respectfully Submitted. –

I have &c. &c.

John W Kerr

F. O. –

The Hon;

The Minister,

&, &, &.

Sent – John Everitt, Fort Erie, his license on the 15th February 1880. – He still owes the department $5. He paid $25, See up. J W Kerr. F. O.

There is an extraordinary rush of striped bass up the Hudson. Fishermen from Peekskill north say they never saw the like before. Thousands of them are caught daily in nets, and they weigh from five to twenty-five pounds each. Notwithstanding this they are scarce in the New York market, where they bring readily twenty-five cents per pound, while in this city they can be purchased for ten cents per pound. They are caught as far north as Kingston Point and shipped by the thousands to New York city, though large numbers are sold in the river towns.—*Poughkeepsie Eagle, January 13.*

13. February 1880.

I have the honor to receive a Copy of Mr. Wm. Kerbys letter, dated Niagara, 7th February 1880, with your Order to me, to report thereon. --

Mr. Kerby, it appears claims $11.55 of costs in a suit brought by Joseph Gabriel Sr. against David Derrer, of Queenston, Coloured fisherman; who was convicted and fined by Mr. Kerby; "For a Contravention of the Fisheries Act"; as already reported to you, by me, on the 29th of September 1879. -

I do not think if the department will reimburse the costs. -

I appeared at the Trial, and proved that Mr. Joseph Gabriel Sr. held a license of the fishing ground, where the offence was committed. - The license was also produced as evidence in Court. - David Derrer, was summoned up for the 18th of September last, but he did not obey the summons; when Mr. Kerby issued a warrant for his arrest and he was brought up, on the 19th of September, by the Constable; when the evidence was taken, and he was fined, but he refused to pay, preferring to go one month to Jail. So as to stick Mr. Gabriel or the F. department, in for all the costs. - This was the second time that this man was Convicted for a Contravention of the Fisheries Act, during the past year of 1879." - See Copy of my report herewith, dated 2nd July 1879. -

David Derrer, has not paid this latter fine of $5, nor the costs, $11.10 preferring to be sent to Jail again, so as to put young Jos. Gabriel, the complainant or the F. department in for all the costs. --

I would strongly recommend, that [illegible] no more licenses to fish in the [illegible] Queenston, until he pays all the costs, in the (2) cases, first submitted again to your Office. -

Please refer to Sub Section 3. of Section 15, of the fishery Act. - -

I beg to report that David Derrer has no goods nor Chattels in his own name, on which to levey for Costs, "Except his fishing Machine". please see sub section 3. of section 16. of the Fisheries act. –

After David Derrer, had put in his time, one month in St Catharines Gaol: -- Mr Kerby wrote me about the Costs, asking me to see Joseph Gabriel Sr and have him pay them; and as the case was more of a personal one to Mr Joseph Gabriel Sr I then wrote him on the subject. -- please find copy of letter, dated 22, December 1879. –

I saw Mr Gabriel, at Niagara, on the 28. of December 1879, when I was collecting my Annual Returns, he then promised me faithfully that he would pay the Constables, and send me his receipt, but this, he has not, it appears done, as per Mr Kerby's letter. –

I have no doubt upon my mind, but that the Constable's expenses, as set forth by Mr Wm Kerby, J. P. – and which includes the Magistrates fees, ought to be paid. --

With all the facts of the case now before you. I hope you will be pleased to decide who is responsible; This is the first case of this Kind, and where Costs are involved, that has ever been brought under my notice. –

Hon: Minister.
&c. &c. &c.

I Have, &c. –
John W Kerr
F. C.

Monday, 16. February 1880. –

At S: Bridge, and Niagara, about Alex: Servos, Mill dam, went out at 4. p. m. came in at 8. Miles 60. My fare 3.00. Tea, and Bed 50. – –

Tuesday, 17. Feb: 1880. –

At Niagara, thence out to Mr Alex: Servos, Mill dam, examined it very closely, so as to make a correct report, to the department, saw Mr Servos, went out at 9.15. a. m. Came in at 12.30. p. m. Miles 10., A & B 2.00, Breakfast, dinner, tea and bed 1.25. See official Report.

Talked to Reg Jim, about the Res Bass Condition, &c. &c. &c, –

Sir,

16. February 1880. —

I have the honor to apply to you, for a renewal license for Mr John W. Ramsey, of Ridgeway, for this current year, for the privilege to fish four pounds, single pots in Lake Erie; between Windmill point, and point Abino — in the township of Bertie, and County of Welland; at the rate of $50, per pound; say $200, for the year. —

Mr Ramsey, wants the privilege of paying half the license fee, $100, down, before he commences fishing; on delivery of the license. —

The balance $100, to be paid on the 1st day of June next. —

In consequence of the great loss of property in Nets, &c, caused by stormy, boisterous weather; during the latter part of last year 1879. — little fishing being done, about enough to pay wear, and tear; Mr Ramsey solicits for this year, a reduction in his license of $10, in each pound net. —

This I consider will be a fair allowance; I submit and recommend the same for your consideration. —

You will please bear in mind, that he paid last season, $60, for each pound. —

The Honble
Minister of
F. F. F.

I Have, &c.
John W. Kerr,
F.O.

Wednesday, 18, February 1880. —

At Niagara, Queenston, Sus: Bridge, Hamilton and home; went out 9. a.m. came in at 1.20. p.m, Miles 58, Ry fare. 1 & B, $2.00, Breakfast 25¢ and 25¢.

Sir,

10. February 1880.

I beg most respectfully to report for your information that Cisco fish, in Lake Ontario, B. beach, catch, at present are afflicted from some injurious cause; so as they have become lean, thin, and in bad Condition. --

"They are as the fishermen say, regular sucks. high in bone, and low in flesh". --

"From enquiries made and instituted by me, I am as yet unable to give you in full, a solution or explanation of the cause.

"From statements made to me, by the fishermen, and from my own observations; and my impression is, that hunger, is to some extent, one of the causes; As fill net fishermen, who fish up gill nets; say! the nets do not Contain the shrimp like insect food, Ciscos are known to mess and prey upon. --

"The blue back Herring caught in the same gill nets, with the Ciscos are however always in splendid Condition. --

I Consider it my duty to bring the above state of Cisco affairs, under your immediate notice; Just as I have done in the Case of Shad, &c, &c. --

The Honble
The Minister of
F. F. F.

I Have &c.
John Wiberd,
F. Overseer.

Mr. and Mrs. Reid.

I have received your license to fish a Seine, in Lake Ontario, at Port Credit, and the Cranberry Marsh. – Also for the privilege of fishing Pike gill nets, in the River Credit, from the mouth of the Harbour, up as far as the rapids; – near the Indian Village! You can take the Boys, and put them to fish, when ever they are ready to go at it. Please ascertain privately from Mr. about the speckled Trout. – Tell the Boys I hope they will catch a large number of Pike this year, and they should get a good price for them during Lent. If you want the license, send me word, and I will bring it down, it will be $10, this year. ——

Hamilton, Ont.,
19. Feb: 1880.

Yours truly,
John W. Kerr, J.P.

19. February 1880. –

Sir, I have the Honor to apply to you, for White fish Seine Hauling licenses, for to fish in Lake Ontario, and the Niagara River, during this present year, as follows;

1. For Robert John Allen, of Niagara. For to fish in Lake Ontario, same as last year, license fee, $15.00,
2. Mrs Kate, and James Cantwell, do. do. do. 15.00,
3. John Bolton, do. do. do. 15.00.
4. Messrs. Thomas Flint, Thomas Muir, and John Alford of Niagara. This license to be the same as last year, $ 25, –

Each license should contain a clause, to the effect, that there should be no nets, in any White fish Seine, under four inches extension measure; through which a 2" inch square block of wood, can be passed by the Overseer, before fishing commences. – And if Salmon are caught, they must be instantly liberated, alive. – I recommend the above for your consideration. –

I have &c.

Hon: Minister.

John W. Kerr
J.P.

V. V. V.

Sir,— 19. February 1880

I have the honor to apply to you, for some Standing Licenses in the Niagara River, for this Current year, as follows,

1. "For Stake of Sheepshead, Dunville: To be the same, as last year, except free, which will be. — 10.00.

2. Seines for Smelt, Niagara. To be the same as last year, 15.00.

I recommend the same to be granted,

Honble
Minister, &c &c,
Ottawa, —

I have, &c.
John W Kerr
J.P.,

3. — P.S. please send me "Boat License", for Alex. Robert Taylor, and Robert Reid, of Niagara; "For to fish 1.500 yards of S. Front, and Herring gill Nets, in Lake Erie, between Stephens point and Mile Creek,"— "The Herring gill nets shall not be set, to catch smaller white fish in any places, where those fish frequent,"— licenses fee to be $5, Hotchkiss, J.P.,

My dear George. — 21. February 1880. —

I am in receipt of your application for License to fish pike gill nets in Ashbridges Bay; and wishing me to make the Licenses have. — $5, is as low as I can fix it; please send me $5, on receipt, and I will at once apply and obtain a license for you. — I understand your brother Billy, has got up a petition to stop all Net fishing in Ashbridges Bay. &c. Believe me,

Yours truly,
John W Kerr
J.P.,

Mr Geo: Lang, —
Fisherman,
Leslieville, —

Sir

16, February 1880,

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 13th instant, with an enclosed diagram of Staulons point, as owned by him, on Toronto Bay; Also showing a strip of "made land", on the Lake side, west of Staulon's point, across an Inlet, . - - You say: "It is purposed to comprise in the limits of his licensed station." - "This map differs from the one sent by you, to the extent of showing this outside boundary." -

In reply, I beg to report that the map of Toronto Island, that I sent you, shows this outside western boundary, on the Lake side, west of the Inlet, in front of which you will please find on the map marked "Whole fish Staulons grounds" "Green and Gray". - The only difference you will find is that since Mr Charles Unwin P.L.S. Surveyor made this map, a copy of which I now send you, the "made land" has grown more towards the north; from what it was then to what it is now; and as shown on Mr Staulon's diagram and which you will now find also entered on the map, my own copy which I send you today. - - By prolonging the line on the map I now send you, run it straight, and not diagonal so as to clear Grays front, from the west end of the black boundary line, on the north end of Gray's Bowling Alley, which is the boundary line, between Gray and Staulon, across the Inlet, and you will find my red line, will strike the "made land", at about the same place that the blue line on Staulon's diagram does, say a little south, of the intended southern Bathing House. This will be more agreeable to Gray, I have marked the Bathing House, and red line on the map, I now send you. - -

And by running another straight line, from the extreme north end of Staulon's point, across Kerrs the Inlet, to the "made land", on the Lake side, parallel, with the red line run across the Inlet, from the north end of Gray's Bowling Alley, you will be north, of the northern Bathing House, that is now shown on the "made land" - on the Lake side, west of Staulon's point, and west of the Inlet, and as shown on the map, I now send you. - This point being now extended as

it is. -- "Fifty dollars a year will not now be too much to charge for all the fishing grounds, you purpose to lease to Mr Edward Stanlow".

There is another thing, omitted on Stanlows diagram and that is the foot plank walk, which was put down by the Corporation of Toronto, a few years ago, commencing at Stanlows wharf, and running from there, up past Grays, and the Stoves, south of him, and around the Island. —

I have only another remark to make; which it is my duty to do, and that is, about the proposed Bridge across the Inlet leading from Stanlows point, opposite or near his New House, across the Inlet to the "made land" on the Lake side, west of Stanlows point. — This Inlet is Navigable for Sail Boats; and as there are several Sail Boats kept by those Gentlemen who live during the Summer and fall season in the Stoves, south of Grays Hotel, on the Island, as also Grays Market Sail Boat; a question arises to which I most respectfully draw your attention; Will the proposed Bridge obstruct and bar the Navigation; and prevent these gentlemen and fisher=man Gray, from sailing from and to their homes, up this Inlet, which leads to their doors. —

Hon. Sir
Minister. N. W.
Ottawa.

I have, &c.
John W. Stone
T.O.

N.B. On the Map I now send you, I hope you will find everything marked thereon as required. — I send back Stanlow's diagram, and please return my Map, when you copy on to yours from it,

J. W. Stone
T.O.

Sir,

20. February 1880.—

I have the honor to receive your's of 19th instant, with reference to David Derrer's fine and costs, &c., &c.,

In this case I beg most respectfully to report, that the only fishing material used by Derrer, on the occasion referred to, was an old scow; worth perhaps a couple of dollars, this Derrer tied in close to Joseph Gabriel's fishing machine thereby damaging and injuring his fishing by the way it was moved about, to and fro' by the rapid current of the water in the Niagara River;—

Previous to this occasion Derrer, had been allowed to pass up his Boat thro' the Gates of his Gabriel's machine; or to go on Gabriel's machine, and tow the scow round it.— But Derrer having called Gabriel a perjurer and other bad names; because of the manner, in which he gave (Gabriel) had given his evidence in the case tried previously against him before Mr Stuart the Police Magistrate, at Clifton.— 2d July report will give you particulars.—

"The only good reason, that I can see for the department, assuming costs is, that Mr Wm Kerby, the convicting Magistrate, has always heretofore efficiently discharged his duties in the interest protection, and promotion of the Fisheries at Niagara.—

Whenever the Constable of the Town of Niagara, "who is a salaried officer", acted in any case, wherein I was personally interested, his costs went to that Corporation, and I always gave him something for himself when I could out of the fines.—

"The Constable in this case, Mr Bradley lives in Queenston, where he arrested David Derrer, took him to Niagara, 7 miles, in his own conveyance, and thence to St Catherines Gaol 12 miles, more, back home to Queenston 12 miles, serving summons, and proving service 14 miles.— Hence I would recommend the department to pay the amount, and if you approve I will put it in my present quarterly acts, when it terminates.— Because I find there is no other way, in law; whereby costs of this kind can be obtained and paid.— I have the

Hon: Ministers, &c. &c.

24.— John Wilson, J.P.

Sir

20. February 1880.

I have the honor to send you Bank draft, No: 304, for the sum of Eight dollars. - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, for this current year; as follows;

1, Mr G. L. Sticks, of H. Stumber. - "For a Boat License, the same as last year. $5.00.

2, Samuel Smoke, East Flamboro, "For a spearing license in B. bay, and Dundas Marsh, up to 20th of April next. 1.00.

3, John Bamburger, Lucaster, do. do, do, 1.00.

4, Chris: Teeple, East Flamboro, do. do. do. 1.00.

Total, $8.00.

Please send me License for Mr Sticks, and I will take good Care, that he does not fish his pike gill nets in the Stumber Marsh, claimed by Mr Murray, except with that gentlemans Consent.

I Have &c.

Yours Mr Minister,

John W Kerr

J. O.

21, February 1880. Wrote to Henry Sheppard. — paid Stationery 25. cts

" Postage stamps 25. cts

Monday, 23rd of February 1880.

Gave Mr St. L. Bastien his License. $5. To be paid for. -

" Mr Wm Inglew, Bronte his License, $5, To be paid for. —

My dear Sir, 20th February 1880,

Having made the application for a renewal of your Pound Net, license, as agreed upon by you and I, for to fish four pounds with single heads or pots, in Lake Erie, between Wind Mill point, and point Abino, in the Township of Bertie, during the current year, 1880. – I have much pleasure in communicating to you, that the privilege has been granted, at the rate of $200, for the year. – The department directs me to Countersign, and deliver to you the license on payment of the stipulated sum. – However, I will do as agreed to, by you and I. – –

I have also much pleasure in communicating to you, that I have also received a license for your father, Mr Thomas Ramsey, of Fort Erie; for to fish two pounds with single heads or pots, in Lake Erie, between point Abino, and Nares point, at the rate of $60, for the year 1880, – which has to be paid on delivery. – I consider it wise only just that your father should have his license on cheap terms for the single pots talked of between you and I, –

I hope you will get an early start back of you, this Spring and have a prosperous season. – – – Don't sell your fish in Buffalo, Market, too cheap. – – –

With Kind regards to Mrs R. – & thanks, your father, father-in-law, Joe, and the other boys, your brothers. –

And believe me, My dear sir,

Yours truly –

John W. Ramsey Esq.
Box, No: 40,
Ridgeway P.O.

John Wilkes,
Inspector.

Monday. 23rd February 1880.

At Bronte, James & Robert Joyce, paid me $5. license fee for last year, Mr. Joyce, gave me an order on Mr Smith for $5, – went out at 9.30. a.m. came in at 3.50. p.m. Miles 40. Ry fare 65¢, Stage 25¢, dinner 25¢, B & B. $1.00. – $2.15

Sir,

19. February 1880. —

I have the Honor to receive your copy of the petition of Mr William David Webster, of the Township of Niagara, in the County of Lincoln, addressed to "The Honble The Minister of Marine and Fishery" praying that steps be taken without delay to compel Alexander Servos, to comply with the Law, by building a fish slide, in his Mill dam; as in such cases, made and provided". And referred to me by you, to report upon. —

In obedience to your Order, I have the honor to report, that I have made a careful personal examination of the Mill dam referred to by the petitioner; and I beg most respectfully to report that I do not consider it necessary for the public interest, that a fishway should exist, or be provided for, by the Owner, and proprietor in this case. - - -

Mr Alexander Servos, is an ex Reeve, and a Magistrate, being owner, living on Lot No. 193, Military Reserve, in Township of Niagara, Co. on which there is a Steam Saw Mill, and a first Mill, worked by water power, -- The dam was built, during the last Century, about the year 1798; - The dam is only five feet high, and has a frontage of about 2. Chains altogether. -
In the Center of the dam, a point of land projects into the Mill pond. - On the west side of this point of land, the water passes over say about fifty feet frontage of the dam, which is only 2' feet high; perpendicular. - - Then to the East of this point, of land, the dam is about or only 4' feet high, perpendicular. - On the East side of this latter chain frontage, and which is also the East side of the Mill pond, there is a Wooden Flume, about 16' feet long, substantially built, and braced; of Oak plank, - At the upper end of this flume, there is a Sluice gate, which is always raised, when the "Flour Mill is working grinding" or during high water, but when the Mill is not grinding - the Mill race, has no water in it, which was the case when I made my inspection of the premises on last Tuesday.

27. - -

About the Centre of the flume, in the west side of it, and close down to the bottom of the flume, and close to the bottom of the Creek, below the dam, — there is a 2' foot square space, through which water passes down, into the Main Creek, under the dam, and this affords the fish free access up the stream, at all times, to spawn, and gives all the facility, that is required, for all the different Kinds of fish, that frequent this four mile stream, to ascend up, in to the Mill pond; and from thence up stream to St. Davids a distance of about 9 miles, without any obstruction whatever in their way. — —

The Mill pond, contains about 20, Acres of water and it abounds with Black bass, speckled bass, pike, perch, sun fish, mullets, suckers, Catfish, and Eels without number. The petitioner does not own a foot of land in the Township of Niagara; his motive in petitioning I learn is petty spite and malice, and was never intended for the protection or spawning of fish. — Because of the fish, having already free access to the Mill pond, by the way I have herein pointed out to your, as fixed by the Servos for that purpose. — —

I Stand therefore to report to your Honor, that I deem it, to be my duty to report against the granting the prayer of the Wm. H. Webster's petition, because, as you will please observe it is not necessary to do so, and if it was, the Alexander Servos, would instantly conform with the Law. — —

This Creek runs into the four mile pond, thence out into Lake Ontario.

Honble

The Minister,

&c. &c. &c.

I Stand, &c.

John W. Stevens,

J.P.

My dear Sir — 21. February 1880. —

I am in receipt of your note of the 14th instant applying for the privilege of fishing pike gill nets in Ashbridges' Bay. — In reply I may that I intend applying for a License for you; but I have seen by the papers, that a petition has been sent to The Honble The Minister of Marine and Fisheries by about 200, persons, for to stop all Net fishing, in Toronto, and Ashbridges bay, and the Don.. Got up by Billy Laing, and other Boat Keepers, and police. — Whenever it is sent to me, I will report against it; If you have heard anything about this petition; please let me know. — —

It was also communicated to me, that Funsell filled his pike gill nets, all last fall, and sold the fish to Mrs Doyle. —

Yrs truly,

John Wokes F. M.

Mr Wm Montgomery,
140. Front st. Toronto

My dear Sir — 21. February 1880.

Your letter was duly received; after my return home, I wrote to Chester A. Harris, stating if young Thomas wanted to continue fishing at the Gilmour Road; in the Niagara River, he must pay $10, for the privilege but I have had no answer thereto. — Let your friend make an application, and send me $10, and I will apply for, and get him a license immediately

I hope your mother is getting all right. —

Yrs truly,

John Smith
Fisherman
Fort Erie

John Smith F. M.

Sir,

24. February 1880,

I have the Honor to send you, herewith, Bank draft No: 312, for the sum of Ten dollars. — —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, as Boat licenses fees, for the past year of 1879. —

1, Messrs, James and Robert Joyce — Bronte, For Boat license in Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Nelson, for the year ending 31st day of December 1879. $ 5.00.

2, Richard Joyce, Bronte, For, do, do. do, 5.00.

Total $ 10.00.

I Have now the Honor to apply for a renewal license for the above fishermen for this current year, at rate of $ 10. each. — The same number of Yards of bisco gill nets, to be inserted in this years license, as was in the previous years licenses. But with this difference: One half of the fill nets, shall be 1¼ inch mesh; and the other half 1⅞ inch mesh. — —

My object in recommending this reduction in the size of bisco and Herring fill nets, is this; "In consequence of the very large quantities of biscos and Shad that died, and were seen floating in the waters of Lake Ontario, last season; and lying dead on its Shores, by thousands; as I have already heretofore reported to you; and after giving the matter some attention in my own humble way; I have come to the Conclusion of recommending the above change in the size of Bisco gill nets, so that those surplus fish, may be caught and marketed, and whereby it will become a gain and an advantage to the fishermen, and the public, as I still believe the death amongst those fish, last season, was caused by hunger and starvation. I Have &c.

Hon: Minister, John McKee J. P.

&c. &c. &c.

P. S, I recommend this matter, specially, for the Whitehall Contemplation.

J McKee J. P.

Notice to the Niagara Fishermen.

In Order that every fisherman, may be prepared, who applies for a Licence, to Seine Stand for White fish, in Lake Ontario, &c. at Niagara. — I hereby give due and timely notice; that each License, now to be issued, contains the following clause; — "Mesh of nets to be no less than four inches in the mesh, extension measure". —

And no Gill Nets of any Kind shall be fished within two Miles of any Seine Standing grounds; nor the Town side of Stephensons point, in Lake Ontario. — In no Case without a Licence. —

Fishery Overseer's Office, 3 By Order,

Hamilton, 20. February 1880. 3 John W. Kerr, F.O.

P.S. The way I propose to measure the mesh as of the Seines, is putting a 2" inch square block of wood, through the same.

John, F.O.

My dear Harry, —

I send you, your Licence herewith, you may want to Catch fish; to sprinkle among the Catholics every one,

The department intend to charge you $10, this season for the privilege of fishing; so you will have to begin and make an early start; I wrote you the other day. — And with my Kind regards, and best wishes to all. —

Believe me —

Yours fraternally

John W. Kerr

F.O.,

25. Feb. 1880,

Mally Sheffane Esq. Re 3 Questions,

Answ.

Telegraph 15¢ to Niagara

My dear Sir, I have applied for, and received from the department of Marine, and Fisheries, Ottawa; White fish, Seine hauling licenses, for the undermentioned Niagara fishermen, viz:

1. Messrs. Thomas Elliot & Thomas Elliot, and John Allen, Between Navy Cove wharf, and the east side of the One Mile Creek. — — License fee — 20.
2. John Bolton, Two Mile Creek, Seine Hauling, 15,
3. Mrs Kate, and James Cantwell, Seine Hauling ground, near the Four Mile Creek. — — — } 15.
4. Robert John Allen, Seine hauling ground near the Four, west of Cantwells. — } 15,

I have also a license for Alfred Ball, and James Longhurst, to fish a Seine in the Niagara River, at the Fourmiles, $15, and a Boat license for Messrs Robert Taylor and Robert Reid, which I now send you, I send you a Copy of Notice to put on the end of Tom Moore's Boat House, so that every White fish Seine Hauling fisherman may know exactly, that he cannot fish a White fish Seine; "Mesh of Seine to be no less than four inches in the mesh extension measure"? — This of Course does not refer to the mesh of your Stretching, picking or Stringing Seine; fished in the River, before the White fish commence to run. — Salmon, if any are caught must be liberated alive. — I have nothing more (now) to tell you, hope you all well, you might tell Allan, the first time you see Alfred Ball please ask him, if he has his brother Chas, with to fish for White fish with a legal Seine, this Season, and let me know so that I may apply for this license. — No fire nets will be permitted to be fished the Niagara side of Stephens point, until after White fish Seine fishing is over 14 days perhaps sooner than".

Now with kind regards to you, all, as usual, believe me, Yours Sincerely,

John Hickson

Mr Thos Elliot, Dear Sir,

Niagara, 25. Feb: 1880.

you will find a copy in front of the Hotel.

John Hickson

32.

My dear Sticks,

I send your license to day; so as to prevent Mrs Murray sending letters to Ottawa; see her, and arrange matters, that you'll to do this. — If any body else wishes please let me know.

Give my kind respects to Mrs St, and believe me,

Mr G. L. Sticks, Yours truly

The Number, Mimico P. Office, John Wilke — Ont. 26. Feb; 1880.

P.S. Mr Robertson Kincaid, has not got applied, J. W.

My dear Sir, 26. Feb: 1880. —

Yours received, and in reply I beg to say; I have no Seine at present, for sale. —

A White fish Seine, for Seine hauling at Frenchman's bay. The mesh of the net, to be no less than four inches in the mesh, 64 = tension measure. — —

And should any Salmon be caught by accident, in the Seine net, they shall be liberated alive, the proof of such liberation shall be entirely upon the Licensee. —

The license fee, should be at least $10, for the year. Send me the money, and I will apply and get your up the License immediately.

Truly,
John Wilke

My dear John Wilke,
Newmarket. P. Office,
Ont.

postages 25 cts

Sir,

1. March 1880. —

I have the honor to receive the annexed article cut from the Toronto Evening Telegram, dated 21. February 1880, stating that "Unless the Minister accedes to the prayer of the petitioners, who ask for the prohibition of net and seine fishing in Toronto Bay, and adjacent waters, there will soon be very little fish left, for the young fish, are being all fished out, &c. &c. &c —

And with a request from the department, that "the Hon. will please read and report upon the veracity of the above"?

In reply, I have the honor to report, that I have carefully read over the article herein; and several other articles which emanated from the same unreliable source; and I do most respectfully beg to assure you, that it is false and unfounded. — —

"There was no fishing being carried on, when this article was published, except by Mr Wm B. Woolland, of Leslieville, who had commenced under a license from the Fisheries department, to fish for, and catch Mud Cat, or small Cat fish. Not any kind of fish bred at Newcastle Ontario" — with a few stroke in Ashbridges Bay. —

Billy Lang, who keeps a few Boats, to rent out to anglers and at present residing on Ashbridges Bay, — Leslieville, formerly a thieving fisherman at Port Union, Lake Ontario; from which place, he had to fly, for stealing fence and fowls, and for other bad conducts. — His conduct was so bad, when fishing at Port Union, that the people there, could stand his pilfering no longer, and so to get rid of him, he was burned out. — Billy Lang, has been for some time past, running round getting a petition signed, to the same effect, as set forth in the attached News-paper article. —

The fisherman of Toronto Island, and who fish in a few skiffs in Toronto bay, for rough fish.

and these fishermen, who fish pike like Nets, during spring time each year, and in Ashbridges Bay; are men of good character, always obedient to the laws, rules and regulations of the Fishing department.

Billy Lang, pays no regard, nor respect to the Laws of God, nor Man; and at present is married to his second wife, while his first wife is still living.

A little while ago, I met him, near the Market place, Toronto; when he told me unless I stopped Wm. B. Woolland, from Catching Catfish, (and where you live too) he would go in Above paper writing, and petitions to stop him and every other pike gill net fisherman, from fishing in Ashbridges Bay. &c, &c, &c,

In conclusion, I beg to report that since last fall, up to this present time; until once last week, when David Ward, hauled in the Bend, no net fishing (except Woolland", has been done in Toronto, nor Ashbridges Bay: — so much for Billy Langs, lying and slandering. — I have been told, that some members of the Toronto, police, and others not knowing what was Langs petition put their names on it,

Hon; Minister
&, &, &.

I Have &c,
John W Kerr
F. O.

Stationery, — pens 25 ct, and paper 40 ct

"Friday. 27. February 1880. —

At Toronto, Toronto Island, and Toronto Bay. — Made enquiries, so as to be in a position, to report upon Messrs Ward, and Gray's, New fishery license limits, also Edward Hanlon's fishery license limits; Consulted with Gray and Ward, both being present at "Jim Crow pond" — "Thence to the Bend; — and saw William Steine, John Gunsell, and Wm. Montgomery, up to Shelburne to see, Mr. Gray, and as a matter of course had long chat with her, and the fishery — and lease held from Government; — back again to the Island; went out at 8. a. m. came in at 11. p. m. — Miles 50. Boat and men $3 — R. fare 2.00, dinner, tea and bed 75 ct, — See my report, 1st March

35.

00 Harrison and Billy Ward were building an Ice House. — 00

John W Kerr
"F. O."

1. March 1880,

I have the honor to enclose Bank draft No', , for the sum of Thirty dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows; for this current year, as per description given by me, and enclosed herein. — —

1. Messrs David Ward, and Patrick Gray, Toronto Island, "For Seine Hauling license, as per description, sent herewith; amount to be forty dollars, now sent on a/c^t — — 20.00,

2. Messrs David Ward, and Wm Ward, T. I, —
For a Boat License, to fish 8,000 of S. T. g. net, and 3,500. Yards of bisco gill nets — In Lake Ontario; between the Humber Bridge, and the Dutch Churches, "about 12, Miles Lake front=age". And to extend outwards in deep water, in front of the same, for a distance of Six Miles — Amount of license $20, on a/c^t now 10.00
Total $30.00,

Hon: Minister,
F. F. F.

I have &c,
John Kerr
F. O,

"Memorandum" — Will you be pleased to add Wm Ward's name to the Boat License; — Make the License fee $20, instead of $10, as per application made this day, and then return the same to me, and oblige

John Kerr F. O,

1st March 1880. —

Saturday, 28. February 1880. — —

1. At Toronto, Toronto Island, and Hamilton; — Got $40. from Mr Doyle — license Money for David and Wm Ward, heard all about Billy Lang, and his petition — and News paper Articles about small fish in Ashbridge & Toronto Bay; went out at 8.30, Am, came in at 5. p. m. Miles 44. — Breakfast and dinner 50 c^t & Tea 25 c^t, — 36.—

Sir,

1st March 1880,

I have the Honor to apply to you, for Boat licenses; For to fish pike gill nets, in Ashbridges bay, during the approaching spring; same as last season; by the undermentioned fishermen. –

1. George Laing, Leslieville – For to fish 500 yards of pike gill nets in Ashbridges bay. $5.00 ea.
2. John Gunsell, Toronto, For to fish 1000 do, same as last year. } 10.00,
3. Wm Montgomery, Toronto, do. 1,000, do 10.00.
4. Wm Steine, Toronto – License to fish 500 yards of pike gill net in Ashbridges Bay. — } 5.00.
5. James Simpson, Toronto, For license, same as last year. 5.00,
6. Mrs Marsh, Leslieville, "For a free License to fish 500 yards of pike gill net in Ashbridges bay. — } free

I may mention for your information, in connection with the License applied for by me, for Mrs Marsh; – that her Husband Lewis Marsh, was with me, the night I singed, Joseph Blacks – Seines, for illegal fishing in June 1878, – "Please see my report of July 1st 1878," – at Frenchmans Bay, L. Ontario. And he underwent so much wet, and fatigue on that occasion along with me, that he caught Cold, and a bad Cold, from which poor Lewis never recovered. –

I have much pleasure in recommending that you will be pleased to grant the above licenses.

I Have &c

Hon: Minister
&c &c &c

John McKee,
F. O.

Sir.

1st March 1880.

I have the honor to receive copies of Special fishery Licence for 1880, intended for Messrs Ward and Gray, (jointly,) and Mr Edward Hanlon, in Lake Ontario, and in portions of Toronto Bay, off Toronto Island; with a Memorandum thus: "Mr Kerr will please look over these licenses, and see if descriptions are correct, and satisfactory, making any notes he chooses." —

"Licenses to be returned when this done." —

In reply, I beg most respectfully to return to you the copies of the licenses you honored me with, for perusal. &c. &c.

Having given them my best attention, and consideration; and having also run down to Toronto Island; and seen Mr David Ward, for upwards of 40 years, a fisherman there, and Mr Patrick Gray, for upwards of 27 years a fisherman on Toronto Island; and having consulted with them; about the change made, by giving Mr Edward Hanlon, a fishery, on the west points of Toronto Island. —

I have the honor to submit a copy of the boundaries of the fisheries, I would respectfully now recommend should be granted to Messrs Ward, and Gray, jointly, and to Edward Hanlon; respectively. —

The change will not effect Mr David Ward, (hardly any,) only so far, as the White fish seine hauling ground, on the "made land", off the west point, now licensed to Hanlon, is concerned. —

But Mr Patrick Gray, will be a loser, annually, by the change; and having a 21, years Lease, from the Corporation of Toronto, dated 21st of May 1870, — of lots, No: 24, and No: 82, — Containing 10 Acres; for which he pays $50, a year rent, to "The said Corporation, Toronto; besides upwards of $30, annually in Taxes; — I just considered that Mr Gray's Lease hold, and fishery licenses, besides the appurtenances thereto, should not be encroached upon in front of lot No: 82, when

giving Mr Edward Staulon, a license for a fishery in Toronto Bay, in an Inlet, or in a part of Lake Ontario, due west, and due east, of Staulons point, and in front only, of the Staulon Stonestead property there; by giving the matter due consideration on my part, and so avoid Conflicts, between Gray, and Staulon, and the Corporation of Toronto, and the Fisheries department, Ottawa; Since my reason for drawing up Copies of the licenses, I would now most respectfully recommend may be granted to each party, if the same should meet your approbation. —

And I do really think it advisable, and it would give general satisfaction; that Mr Charles Unwin, P.L. Surveyor, shd stake out "a fresh", the boundary between Gray's property, and fishery in Black Stone Bay; and the Staulon Stonestead property, and Edward Staulon's fishery in Toronto Bay, which they now occupy from the Corporation of Toronto, and the fisheries department Ottawa, respectively; and also to place the post on the "made land", — and west point, boundary, between Messrs Ward and Grays White fish Seine hauling fishery, and Staulon's fishery, in Lake Ontario. —

This is all I have to advise in the premises. —

In conclusion; I may mention, that Mr Patrick Gray's Lease; from the Corporation of Toronto, has been carefully drawn up, by, and witnessed by the Hon; John Beverley Robinson, M.P. and Solicitor for Toronto, "The same being just read over, and explained by him to Patrick Gray". —

And it comprises six pages of closely written matter on foolscap paper, and has the Corporate seal thereto, and is signed, and sealed by Mr Gray, and the proper Corporate Officers. — And I believe I am right in saying it is the only Lease granted to any person on "Toronto Island", by the Corporation of Toronto.

The Hon:
The Minister,
&c &c &c.

I Have, &c.
John W Kerr
Per.

Sir,— 3. March 1880.—

I have the honor to send you Bank draft No. 341. for the sum of Ten dollars.—

Will you be pleased, to apply this amount, as follows; for year's 1879, and 1880.—

1. David Fitch, Burlington Beach;— "For Boat license to fish 1.000 yards, of bisco and herring gill nets, in Lake Ontario, off Beach.—

500, Yards, of the above, to be 2½", inches, extension measure; and 500, yards to be 2¼", inches meshes, extension measure — for the year 1879.— $ ct. 5.00,

Please send me (2 Copies) one Copy for 1879, and a Copy for the year 1880.—

2. William Bolton, Flamboro, "For spearing license in B. bay, and Dundas Marsh.— do. — 1.00;
3. Wm. Hoover, — Hamilton, For — do, do. — 1.10,
4. Luke Mullock, Flamboro, — For do. do — 1.00,
5. James Maguire.— Do, For, do, do — 1.00,
6. Mr Brown, Hamilton, For do, do — 1.00

The Hon Sec.,

Total, — $ 10.00 ct

The Minister,
&c. &c. &c.

I have &c. &c.
John W. Kerr.
J. P.

Tuesday, 2., March 1880.—

1. Am B. Beach, heard of J. N. Coney's disreputable language against J. W. Kerr — J. P, used at a public Meeting of fishermen, at David Fitch's. David Fitch, paid me $5. for last year's Boat License;— saw Aide Lange, Wm: McLynn, deliver John Stangels his spearing license; Alex. Rollo, sick, gave for Duncan McGillivray a $1,— fishermen applied for annual W. J. Sam license, also for license to fish herring in Bay;— Thence to the Wharf on Cann

Sir,

3. March 1880.

I have the Honor to recommend that you will be pleased to permit Seine Hauling in Burlington Bay, on B. Beach, for Coarse fish, and Herring; say from this date, up to, and including the 15th day of May next. -- The same to be carried on, in the usual Seine Hauling grounds, situated in B. bay, on the North and South of the Burlington Canal. -- There are some fishermen on B. beach, with families; who need this privilege, and are worthy of your Consideration. --- (4. S. 84. gross -- 8.)

"Immature White fish, hauled in, must be instantly liberated alive". -- "No Seining permitted between 6. o'clock, on Saturday Evening, and 6. o'clock, on the following monday morning" -

I am at present unable to say; who will accept the privilege if granted; - However, the licence fee will be five dollars for each Seine. -

Please answer as soon as Convenient.

Hon.ble
Minister. Fc.

I have. &c.
John W. Kerr
J. P.

Continued from last page. -

here he renewed his application for leave to set a pike gill net, for to catch a few pike to eat, went out at 7. a. m. came in at 4. 30. p. m. Miles 24 - 84. and Waggon - 2.00 - dinner 50 cts. Ed: Kerr.

Wednesday. 3rd March 1880. -

On the Heights, and at Fred: Morrisons, went out at 9. a. m. Came in at 4. p. m. Miles 8. C&H B. 1.50, found all regular. - C. J. Kerr.

Sir,

3, March 1880, -

I have the Honor to state for your information, that "That portion of the Waters and Marsh Lands in B. bay, fronting on Lots Nos 2.3. and 4, and the west half of Lot No: 1, in the Broken Front Concession of the Township of Barton; is owned and occupied by Mr William Gage, who lives on Lot No: 4, now set apart for the propagation of fish. -

Mr Gage has applied to me for permission, to set a piece of pike gill net therein, for to catch a few fish for his own (use) table. - "The patent to him from the Crown, includes the waters set apart; and in which he desires to do, this little fishing". -

Mr Simon Peter Stipe, who owns a portion of lots Nos 5. and 6, Broken Front, Concession of Barton, would like to have a like privilege granted to him. - His position being similar to Mr Gage. -

And Mr Thomas Lottridge - of Lots 6, 7, and 8 - in 1st and 2nd Concessions of Barton, has applied to me for a like privilege. - All these persons pay County, Township and School Taxes on the waters, inlets of B. bay, where they desire to catch a few pike for their own table. - And Mr Lottridges case is similar to Gages. -

I have the honor to recommend that you will be pleased to grant the privileges.

I have &c,

John W Kerr
F.O.

Hon Mr
Minister.

Sir,

3, March 1880.

I have the Honor to apply to you for White fish Seine Hauling licenses, in Lake Ontario, on B. Beach; during this current season; for the undernamed fishermen: Viz ^{t}

			$	¢
1, Mortimer Corey,	Burlington Beach. –	Nets,	10.	00,
2, David Fitch,	do, –	"	10.	00,
3, Alexander Roller,	do,	"	10.	00,
4, John Laaffe, –	do,	"	10.	00,
5, Daniel McGwyne, –	do,	"	10.	00,
6, Benjamin Folds. –	do. –	"	10.	00,
7, Fred^{k} N. Corey,	do. –	"	10.	00,

"The Licenses, to be the same for each, as the last season; But with the addition of a clause inserted therein; Viz ^{t}, "Seining for White fish, is permitted, between the 30th day of May, and the 1st day of August on B. beach"? – –

My reason for recommending this clause is; as Mr Whitcher – the Commissioner of Fisheries is aware", – from my similar annual applications; – White fish are not caught in Lake Ontario, on B. beach, during any other part of the year, with Seines. – –

I have much pleasure in recommending this application for your favorable Consideration, hoping that you will grant the same, at your earliest Convenience. – –

"All Salmon, and immature White fish; to be instantly liberated alive"? – And no Seining to be carried on, between 6. o'clock on Saturday Evenings, and 6. o. clock, on the following monday morning;

Respectfully Submitted and Recommended. –

The Honble The Minister, &c, &c, &c,

I have, &c,

John W Kerr,

J. P.

My dear Sir, — "Circular".

I send herewith, your Seine Hauling license, so that you may get your White fish Seine, in order. — according to Law. — You can send me the Money, $15, or give it to me, the first time I come down to Niagara. —

Please Obey the Law, and be guided by that part of your License, based on the Fishery Law, &c.

And believe me, Yours Truly. —

John W Kerr

Fishery Overseer,

Hamilton, Ont.,

3. March 1880. —

Mr John Bolton.
Fisherman.
Niagara. —

A Copy of the above Circular, Mailed with License to Mrs Kate and James Cantwell, Fishermen, Mr Robert John Allen, Fisherman, and to Messrs Thomas Elliot, Thomas Moir, and John Axford, Fishermen, Town of Niagara, Ontario, on the 4th day of March 1880. — The latter's license fee is $20. —

J W Kerr, F.O. —

Each License — Has a Note! Seine hauling and Net fishing Between 6. o'clock, p.m, on Saturday Evening, and 6. o'clk a.m, on the following Monday morning is prohibited. —

No file nets will be permitted to be fished, within 2, miles of any Seine Hauling ground. —

3. March 1880.

John W Kerr, F.O.

Stationery, 25 cts — Tracing cloth 15 cts
Telegraph 24 cts — Postage stamps. 25 cts

Immediate,

My dear Sir, — I write thank you, to let me have your li=
cense money, $15, on receipt. — I was led to believe you would
have sent it to me some time ago. — Bailiffs should be al=
ways made pay up. —

I hope you have good fishing, and with kind
regards, —

Yours truly,

John W. Kerr F.O.,

3. March 1880.

Mr. Richard Gilbert.
Fisherman
Jordan Station, Ont.,

My dear Sir,

I send your License herewith. — You will please pay the amount to Mr. Elliot, for me, or have it for me yourself when I next come down to Niagara. Do you intend to Fish this year out in the Lake Ontario, next Big Jim, please let me know. —

If you do, I will recommend you to get a license there for $5, so as to give you a good start.

Yours truly,

John W. Kerr,
F.O.,

3. March 1880.

Mr. Alfred Ball,
Fisherman,
Niagara.

Friday, 5. March 1880.

At Winona and Grimsby, gave Patrick Stand his License for 1880. — Thence to Grimsby, and gave John Stand his license for 1880. — went out at 8. a.m. came in at 6.20. p.m. Miles 40. Rig, Horse and Buggy $2.50 ct, dinner 25 ct.

Sir,

5. March 1880.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 2nd instant, stating: "Application has been made for a fishery license of a station adjoining the boat house and stable belonging to the Ocean House on Burlington Beach".—

"Please state if that place is vacant, or if you have any applications therefor."—

In reply I have the honor to report that the station referred to, is now; and has been for some years past, licensed to Mr St. L. Bastien, of the City of Hamilton:— A warm political friend, and supporter of the present sitting Members of the City of Hamilton,— &c. &c.

I have already received from the department, Mr St. L. Bastien's license for this current year; and I delivered to him the same, on the 23rd February last.—

I had none other application this season, but Mr St. L. Bastien's.—

Hon: Minister, I have &c.,

&c. &c. &c.,

Inland Revenue,

Ont.

"Thursday. 4. March 1880.—

Dan: McIlwyne, informed me, that a meeting of the fishermen was to be held at Jos. Hughes, on Monday evening next, when F. Carpenter, Reeve, and Joseph Jardine for the Deputy Reeve, were to be there, for to get up a petition setting forth their grievances, and asking for the removal of Mr Baker, the petition to be sent to Tom Robertson Esqre M.P., who would submit it to the Minister with a request, that the Hon: Isaac Buchanan be appointed to investigate the charges:—

Mr Winkler of Lancaster, to spend S.O.C.

Sir,

5. March 1880,-

I have the honor to send you an article cut from the Hamilton Times, of the 3rd inst, for your information. --

The Crusader at Brantford, might be instructed by you, to look after the matter. --

In the meantime, I have written him, on the subject; and have sent him a copy of the article. -

I have
I have, &c,
Hon. Minister,
&c, &c, &c,

John Kerr
J. C.,

Sir,

5. March 1880.

I received your letter last week, and I was on Toronto Bay, and Toronto Island; the day you wrote it. - I have got pike gill net Licenses for Wm Stine, (Catfish Joe) Mr Marsh, "a free license", Wm Montgomery, George Lang, John Gunsell, and James Simpson; and you can begin and fish your own pike gill nets: if you have not already done so; and please tell Mrs Marsh; I will come down next week, and bring the Licenses all down with me; You can also tell George Lang, - I have got his; "Have some money for me". -

Billy Lang, as you will perceive by these licenses cant do much with his petition.

Mr Wm B. Woolland,
"Fisherman,
Leslieville, Ont.

Yours Truly, -
John W. Kerr,
J. Crusader.

or Have J. W. Kerr, removed, - where S. P. Stipe was to be appointed. -- Have; wanted me to walk in about 9. p. m. to the Meeting.

F. N. Carey is the Leader in the allegement.

My dear Mr Whitcher, — Will you be pleased to send me a cheque for $50, dollars. — To meet current expenses. — Ice and Snow has all disappeared, and the fishermen are all making preparations to commence fishing. — I want to run round a little. —

I made arrangements on yesterday to get a few nice fresh L. Ontario White fish for you soon. — All well up here. —

And with the usual Salutations &c, to Mrs Whitcher, and all the other members of your family, believe me, Yours respectfully,

W. F. Whitcher Esqre
Commissioner of Fisheries,
Ottawa. —

John Wilson F.O.,
6. March 1880.

"For 1880, — Stanlou's — as per F. department, — license fee $30, — and dated 25th February 1880, —

Commencing at a point on the North side of Patrick Gray's Bowling Alley, thence due West across the Inlet to a point in Lake Ontario, opposite the Northern Railway depot; "Thence due north to the extreme end of the point of the "made land" — thence due East to a point opposite Stanlou's point; thence due south to Gray's Shanty; thence due west to the place of beginning. — —

A true Copy, — John Wilson F.O.
Made from the Original, 1st March 1880. —

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to find your license herewith; And with my kind regards, and warm respects to you and yours; Believe me,

Yours Sincerely,

Wm Corwan Esqre
J. P. &c.
Milford Creek, P.O.
Ont.

John Wilson F.O.,
Hamilton,
16. March 1880.

Sir,

6. March 1880. -

I have the Honor to send you Bank draft No: 952, for the sum of Eight dollars. - - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, for this current year, as follows;

1. Mr Michael Co. Troup, a Farmer - resident on the Chippawa Creek, "For a license to fish a Stoop Net, not less than 2½" inches (mesh) in the Chippawa Creek, extension measure; between Welland, and Port Robinson, in the County of Welland; "For Catfish; - all other fish caught therein; to be instantly liberated alive. - amount is, $ ct. 3.00.

2. John Daly, Township of Pickering; "For a license to fish during this season, One legal White fish Seine 250 yards long, with meshes therein, not less than 4" inches, extension measure, in Lake Ontario, Township of Pickering. - - Commencing at the West pier, in Frenchmans Bay, and running west along the beach, for a distance of 300 yards. - -

"The license fee is to be $10, now sent on a/ct, " 5.00.

Total $ 8.00.

please insert the (2) following clauses in the license. -

"Any Salmon or young White fish caught or hauled in, must be instantly liberated alive". -

"No Seine fishing, will be permitted, under this license, between 6, o'clock on Saturday Evening, and 6, o'clock, a. m. on the following monday morning". -

The Honble
The Minister,
&c. &c. &c.

I have &c.,
John W. Kerr, F. Crawser.

COMMUNICATIONS.

SPECKLED TROUT.

To the Editor of The Mail.

SIR,—We have read the letter in your issue of to-day signed "Viator," and are surprised that he, as a viator, should endeavour (before he has made himself familiar with the facts on this subject) to stir up informers against a legitimate trade, and one which the Government are in favour of upholding. To all shipments of these fish certificates are attached which are satisfactory to the inspector of their having been caught in the proper season in the district from which we get them. We are often annoyed and put to great expense by such persons as "Viator," who neither buy the fish or game, nor take the trouble to obtain information on a subject with which they imagine they are thoroughly familiar. The trade are always willing to give any information to "Viator" or anyone else with regard to fish and game upon enquiry.

Yours, &c,
J. CLEGHORN & SON.

Toronto, 7th February.

Sir,

5. March 1880. —

I have the Honor to receive your's of the 2nd instant, thus:- "please send a tracing showing the exact difference, between the limits you describe as suitable to be filled into the fisheries li= cense to Staulou, and those described in the draft, sent for your remarks."—

In reply, I beg in the first place to apologise, if I have not already made myself sufficiently explicit to you, in my report of the 1st instant, &c. I now send you the tracing you ask for, by which you will learn, that between the boundary line of Staulou's Homestead property, and Gray's shanty, there is a space of 81' feet owned by Gray, under his Leasehold from the Corporation of Toronto, "So says Gray." Such being the case, and I believe it; It would, and as it appears to me, to be wrong, as per description sent by you if Staulous license, was to say: "Thence due South to Gray's shanty, with 81' feet difference in favour of Gray. - -

"Then extending the description of Staulou's license, from the south end of Gray's Boarding House; thus: Then due west across the Inlet to a point in the Lake Ontario, opposite the Northern Railway depot. - -

"This part of the description of license you sent me, is vague and too indefinite a phrase; if Continued to run due west, would run in front of Gray's House, and premises, in the Inlet. - - I refer you to the blue line in Staulon's diagram, I returned to you, see my report of 16th February last, and to the red line in the tracing I now send you, and you will at once observe, how great a difference there is. - -

According to the red line, on plan herewith, Gray's front is clear, and open to him, and this Gray, expects it will Continue; even after Staulou is granted his license. - -

And according to the Blue line - on Staulon's diagram, Gray's front, in the Inlet is encroached upon, - It should

be clear, and I recommend that it shall be so. --

If Gray's property is encroached upon, he, and Mrs Gray, will re-claim against it. --

Since why, I, in my last report, desired and recommended a just settlement of the boundary line, between the Stanlow Stead lot, of 2, acres, and the fisheries fronting in the Inlet, and Bay, and Lake Ontario, and Grays lot, No: 82, &c. &c. to be made and established by Mr Charles Unwin, P. L. Surveyor. --

"Also state in what way, and to what extent you consider that patrick Gray, will be a loser, annually, by granting limits to Stanlow"? --

In reply to this; it is a difficult matter and question, for me, to answer! as I said before in a former report; the Seine hauling in the Bay not often hauled in, became worthless, after the pipe was laid down; through which the water was pumped, from the filtering basin, Toronto Island; to the Reservoir, Toronto. --

But in the Inlet, on tracing now sent you, the water therein, running from 6' feet, down to 4' feet in depth. -- Gray was in the habit of catching a good many suckers annually; perhaps to the value sometimes of 100, or 150, dollars: -- Now by the present arrangement, he will not catch any more there; until the pipe re-ferred to, was put down by the water Works of Toronto. -- Gray paid $10, a year, license fee, for the privilege of fishing there. -- But now Stanlow paying $30, a year, as a fishery license fee, should finally settle this part of the matter. --

I have done my best, to do what I believe to be for the good and interest, and for all parties concerned; and I have tried to arrange matters, so that nothing should crop up, hereafter. -- Please adopt the diagram I now send you, after Mr Charles Unwin, has planted the posts. --

The Honble
The Minister of
F. F. F.

I have &c.
John Ross
F. A.

(See over) 51.

P. S. Ever since the Minister gave his decision to give Stanlow the fishery I have done all in my power to attain that object.. But for my having gone to great expense in planting with trees, and sodding his place; building two wharfs, and a Hotel, and Bowling Alley, does not think it right that Stanlow should be placed on, or any where in front of his Leasehold property. - - -

6. March 1880. - John W. Kerr, J. P.

Note! When giving the License to Mess. David Ward, and Patrick Ward, please add Wm. Wards name thereto it will have a good effect.

John W. Kerr. - J. P.

Sent letter, to Peter W. Nettle, Bertie, Fort Erie, P. O. office, this 8. March 1880. -

do. - do. John Wesley Ramsey, Esqre. Ridgeway. -
do. - " William Bowman Esqre. Sr. Stirland Creek. -

Sir,

9. March 1880.

In the application, I made to you on the 3rd instant, I intended the Seine hauling license for John Gaffey, of B. Beach, to be filled up this year, the same as all the others, as per Copy above. Instead of which, you have sent me a license for him, similar to that issued last year. I will retain this License, I have already received for John Gaffey, for this year 1880, a little longer, and then return it to you. In the mean time, please send me a License for him, as above. -

All fishermen on B. Beach, must be given permission to fish this year, first, before they will be able to pay their license, which however will be sure in the end.

Yours: &c.

J. J. J.

I Have &c.,
John W. Kerr
J. P.

Copy —

Commencing at a point on the North end of Patrick Grays - Bowling alley, where a post has been planted as per plan and survey made by Charles Unwin, P. L. Surveyor, — of Toronto Island, during the year 1868; Thence due west across the Inlet, to a point where a post has been planted on the "made land", or west point of Toronto Island ~~thus~~; ~~showing the established Northern boundary of Phelps, Ward and Gray's net to fish beside hauling fishing ground, not present licensed to them on the west side of Toronto Island;~~ Thence due north to the extreme end of the point of "made land" facing the Queens wharf in Toronto: — Thence due East, to the extreme end of Stanton's point; Thence due south, to a post planted about one chain and 15 feet, more or less, due north from the north end of Gray's shanty; Thence due west, to the place of beginning. — —

"There is to be no sub letting of this license, except with the consent and approval of the Fisheries department, Ottawa, first had, and obtained. —

dated 8 March 1880. —

"The above is a certified copy of what Mr Edward Hand's fishing grounds should be, &c, &c.

Stanton, Ont.
1st Mar: - 1880.

John Pike
J. P.

Monday, 8, March 1880. —

1/1 Cen B. Beach, gave Dan: McGwyne, Alex Nolla, David Fitch, and Mortimer Corey, their White fish Seine hauling license for 1880. — read them over carefully to each; heard from Capt: Thos: Campbell, Dan: McGwin, Ben: Folds, David Fitch, and Mortimer Corey, — F. N. Grays rascality, in which S. P. Stipe is well mixed up. — The fishermen poorer this year, than I have found them, for some years, No money, until they make it, "the old story", — went out at 8, a.m. came in at 6. p.m. Miles 24. 54, & 53, tolls 4c 2. dinner 50c. Broke buggy 75c — Tolls 33c. — R. Kerr.

40

Copy. — Sellar 1880

Commencing on the beach, at the channel, where the Humber Bridge originally stood; Thence, on "Toronto Bay," including the bend; "Jim Crow pond"; ~~for Davis fishing in, &c, by David Ward~~; "Block House Bay"; ~~for Davis fishing in, &c, by patrick Gray~~; as far North, as a post planted in the ground, about one chain, and fifteen feet more or less; due north; from the North end of Gray's Shanty; ~~and which is the established boundary, between patrick Gray's Leasehold property, from the Corporation of Toronto and the Stanlow property~~; as shown on a plan and Survey of Toronto Island, made by Charles Unwin P. L. Surveyor in 1868, ~~and filed in the Registry office, Toronto, in August 1875~~; Thence from the Gap, on Lake Ontario, around the south, and west shores of Toronto Island, to a post planted in the "made land", of west point, on the beach of Lake Ontario; ~~the established southern limits of the fishery in the Inlet, and in Lake Ontario, licensed by the fisheries department~~, to Edward Stanlow; and which is, and shall continue to be henceforth, the extreme northern limits of, this 3/4 ~~island and Gray's licensed White fish Seine hauling grounds fishery, on the west point in Lake Ontario, off Toronto Island~~; ~~Thence~~ Thence in a direct line to the Garrison slip, on the Main land; ~~and from~~ thence up the shore of Lake Ontario, to the East side of the Humber River. —

"For the privilege of fishing with four Seines of 250 yards ~~long, each~~ in length, all salmon caught in Seines must be instantly liberated alive &c, &c. — —

"This is a Certified Copy of what Messrs Ward and Gray's Seine hauling license should be. —

Stanlow, Ont.

John W. Stanlow, J.P.

1st Mar; 1880

S. —

9. March 1880.

I have the honor to apply to you for six seine fishing licences to fish in Burlington bay, on B. beach; 2. North of the Burlington bank, and 4. South of the B. canal; — where no spearing is ever carried on. — And I recommend that the same may be granted by you, to the undermentioned as follows:

Station No: 2. "To Daniel McGwyne, B. beach; Licence for to fish a Herring Seine, 250. yards long, for Coarse fish, say up to, ending the 15th of May next. — Free young white fish, young Herring, and young pickerel hauled in, to be liberated alive: — Fee to be paid, when the fish caught, are sold. 5.00.

" 3. " John Laffe, — do. — do. — do. — do. .. 5.00.

" 4. " Alex: Rollo. — do. — do. — do. — do. — " 5.00,

" 5. — " — David Fitch, — do. — do. — do. — do. — " 5.00,

" 6. — " — Mortimer Corey. — do. — do. — do. — do. — " 5.00,

" 7. — " — Thos: Joice. — do. — do. — do. — do. — " 5.00,

Since I made application to you, on the 3rd instant, I have seen all those fishermen; and they will feel greatly obliged by the privilege prayed for, and recommended for, by me, being granted by you, as soon as convenient.

Spearing in B. bay, so far, has proved a failure; because fish not fishing has been very slim; and fishermen, especially with families stand in need of something for to support themselves, ("get up Nets") and families; Suckers, Mullets, Pike and Herring, are easilly converted into Money, for to buy Bread, and other provisions; And I am sure I do not err, when I tell you some of the Stands, who will fish, stand in need of the privileges I recommend being granted. — Some rich farmers, may flare up, at me, for recommending you to grant this privilege, but if they do, I cant help it, there is a necessity for it; and the general public will gain the benefit.

Sir &c

I have the

The Minister

&c. &c. &c.

John W. Kerr.

J. P.

55.

Wednesday, 10th March 1880. –

Visited the Fish Stall of Frank White, dealer, Hamilton, and a quantity of filled pike in his possession – Had him summoned up, when I found by his statement before James Cahill Esqre J.P. that he bought them this morning from Ben: Folds; Foster the dealer was present, and Ben: offered them to him. – –

The fish had the fill net marks on them, examined them, and so did White; saw the marks plainly on them. – – –

Got out a summons for Ben: adjourned case agt White until 10. o'clock, a.m. on thursday morning, went out at 9. a.m; came in 12. Noon. Miles 6. 44 B. 1.50.

12. March 1880. –

I have the Honor to report, that on this day 11th inst, before James Cahill Esqre J.P. Police Magistrate Hamilton; I charged Ben: Folds, a fisherman, on B. B. with having about 30. pike in his possession on the 9th instant; and for selling the same to Frank White a fish dealer, in the Hamilton Market, caught with fill Nets in B. bay, I have no doubt by some unknown person or persons, and sold to Ben: Folds, to sell, in contravention of the fisheries Act. – Folds pleaded guilty, and was fined 1 off, and Costs, in all 8.50, and Frank White, in whose possession, I found the pike was fined 1, and Costs to 3.50.

Folds would not tell, give not, the name of the person from whom he bought the pike: They had the fill net marks on them. These are the first cases, I have had this year. –

Hon: Sir

Minister, F. F.

I have &c,
Joh White
F.O.

Mar: 11. Thursday, 1880. –

Before James Cahill Esqre J.P. as per report; went out at 8. a.m. came in at 1.30 p.m. Miles 8. 44 B. 1.50. Not with me. –

Sir,

11. March 1880.

I Have the Honor to send herewith, Bank draft No: 366. for the sum of Twenty dollars. - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows:

1. William Bowan, of Pickering - Port Union; For a Seine hauling License, &c. &c. To be the same as last year. — $5.00

2. Messrs Wm. Wand, and Wm. Ward, Toronto Island, on acct. in full, of Boat License, already received. — $10.00.

3. James D. Lafferty, McCambro, For Spearing license. - $1.00.

4. James Howard, Hamilton, For, do. — do. — $1.00.

5. John Taaffe, B. Beach; For Balance of License fee, for past year. — $3.10.

Total. $20.00;

With reference to the Herring Seine license, &c. granted to John Taaffe, last season, permitting him to Haul for Herring, ten days after White fish Seining ended: - I beg to report that John Taaffe, changed his mind, Joined in with Ben: Folds, and they hauled Jointly on fishing Station No: 9, in L. Ontario, on B. Beach, for White fish, paying $2, more additional, making the amount $10. - -

And as Ben: Folds had done no Seine fishing on Lot No: 12, there, his license fee, was transferred by me, to his Boat License, for Cisco, and Herring Gill Net fishing. -

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I Have &c.

[illegible]

The Honble

The Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa.

paid for Tracing of Standard pr. to Franks $1.50 [illegible]

Sir.

13, March 1880. —

I have the honor to send you Bank draft, No: , for the sum of Twenty dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, for this current year as follows;

1, James Simpson, Toronto, For Seine hauling license, of ground lying and situate at the Bend, Toronto bay, being from the first Outlet, north of the Shanty, down the beach shore of the Bay, to Lake Ontario, thence from the Jap-, east down the south shore of Woolridges Bay, on Lake Ontario for a distance of 500, yards, to a post planted on the beach. — $ 10.00.—

2, Richard Gilbert, Jordan; For license received, and delivered, on afct. $ 10.00.

Total, $ 20.00 cy.

I take the liberty of returning the enclosed license, a change of description, becoming necessary, also an increase of $ 5, in license fee. — For the privilege of fishing one White fish Seine of 250 yards long, and 4" inch mesh, extension measure. —

Hon: Minister

I Have, &c

John Wilson,

P. O.

Friday 12, March 1880. —

At Toronto, on the Island - to see Gray, about staking off, - the boundary between him and Manlon. Thence back to Toronto to see Chas. Unwin M.L.S. thence to Don Mouth, James Simpson paid me $ 10. license fee, thence Hamilton, got money, letter from Richard Gilbert, 10$, for license fee, on afct. letter was opened by some person. — went out at 6 a.m., came in at 6. p.m., Miles 88. Ref fare 2.00. Boat, $ 1, dinner 35 cts, and 25. —

My dear Sir,

15. March 1880.

Was pleased to give Mr. Michael E. Grant's Scrip Warrant handed; and I thank you for your last letter and its Contents.

Please let me know a couple of days before you start so that I may be home when you arrive as I have a good deal to attend to just at present. - - -

I have to yet received of 236.50 and sent same to department, Ottawa; so you may Judge, I am not idle.. We are all well, and with Kind regards to Mrs.. Stella, and all, Believe me,

Yours Sincerely,

J. Wesley Ramsay Esqre
Q. C.
Q. C.
Q. C.
Kingston, Ont.

J. L. Kerr.
Inspr.

Sunday, 14, March 1880, I wrote Thomas Elliot, of Niagara, fisherman. -

Monday. 15. March 1880.

On B. Beach, saw the fishermen, and regulated their Herring Seine hauling in B. bay, as follows;

Station, No: 1. - Mr St. L. Masten, . -
" " 2. - " Alexander Rollo. -
" " 3. - " Mortimer Cosey. - -
" " 4. - " Daniel McGuyne.
" " 5. - " F. N. Cosey. -
" " 6. - " John Jaffe. -
" " 7. - " Thomas Joice. - -

FISHERMEN.

A meeting of the fishermen was held last evening at John Dyne's hotel, on the Beach. Fred. Cory made a speech attacking Inspector Kerr savagely, but was reminded by his brother fisnermen that the most severe persecution they had received was while he (Cory) was in Mr. Kerr's employ. The meeting was a stormy one, and ended about where it began.

went out at 8.30. A. m, came in 6. p. m. Miles 26. 54 B. 2. dinner for 2, — 50. E. K. with me. — see my pocket diary for other particulars; - Had went up, and asked F. N. Cosey if he wanted a license for B. Bay, and if he would come down to the Meeting at John Dynes - his reply was, he was going from home - but he wanted his old license. —

My dear Sir. 20. March 1880.

I purpose coming by the first early Train, from here, on Tuesday morning next, to make and lay off, the fishing grounds; Between Messrs Patrick Gray, William and David Ward, and Mr Edward Staulan, on the Staulan point. Vc: of Toronto Island. —

And as it is my wish that you should be all present, when posts are planted by Mr Charles Unwin, P. L. Surveyor, Toronto, as the person all should agree upon, to plant said posts; he having made the survey in the first place; I solicit your attendance accordingly, say at 11. o'clock A. M. —

I may add, I am prepared to deliver to you, and Mr Edward Staulan, your respective Semi Standing Licenses, at the same time. —

Messrs David Ward,
and Wm Ward and
Patrick Gray. —
Toronto Island.

Yours respectfully,
John W Kerr J. P.

P. S. please see Mr Unwin, his office is on Adelaide st, in front of the Court House. If the Bay is frozen, have a Boat at Queens Wharf so that we can all XX over. —

I have received Mr Unwin's letter, and I will attend to his business for him, when I come down. —

Yours &c,
J W Kerr J. P.

Monday, 22 March 1880.

On Mr. Leach, delivered to J. McCoy, his M. Bay Semi hauling license, he paid me $5. same Dom Campbell, L. H. K = dinner for Ned and self 50, — went out at 8. a. m. came in at 6. 30. p. m. Miles 24. Ad & M. $2.00 cf.

My dear Sir,

20. March 1880.

I purpose coming by the first early Train, on Tuesday morning next, to mark and lay off the fishing grounds, applied for, by the Fisheries department, Ottawa; Between you, and Mr. Patrick Gray, William and David Ward Esq. on the Stanlan point, N.E. of Toronto Island . . .

As it is my wish, that you should be all present, when posts are planted by Mr. Charles Unwin, P.L. Surveyor, Toronto, as the person deputed, he having made the Original Survey; I solicit your attendance there on tuesday next say about 11. o'clock, a.m. —

I may add, I am prepared to deliver to you, your licence at the same time. — I &c respectfully,

John H. Kerr
N.A. Hamilton, Ont.

Edward Stanlan Esq.
No: 113. Brock street
Toronto, Ont.

ANGLING EXTRAORDINARY.—At Galt, on Friday last, — Burnett, John Jardine, Isadore Eby and L. McIntosh went down the river and fished out of the little creek on McPherson's farm. They caught no fewer than 1,800 trout, each about eight inches long—an unprecedented day's fishing.

P.S.

If you have the opportunity, send Gray word, and he will meet us with his Boat. I &c J.H. Kerr N.A.

My dear Sir,

Meet you or some person from your Establishment, be ready on tuesday next, to come on Toronto Island, and mark the fishing boundary, between two Seine hauling grounds; by planting three posts, as "per sketch" — from your map of Toronto Island, "Stanlan's point" — left in your office, by me on the 12th instant.

I will come down by the first Train, and you can come over with me in a Boat. —

I &c respectfully
John H. Kerr N.A.
20 March 1880.

Charles Unwin Esq.
P.L. Surveyor
Toronto

P.S.

I have notified all persons concerned. J.H. Kerr.

61.

Thursday, 18, March 1880. - -

At St Catherines, to see Peter Hath, about his License for fishing, for this current year; went out at 8. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. Miles 70. My fare $1.75 cts, dinner 40 cts. Buss 30 cts, S & B. 1.50 cts.

Monday, 22nd March 1880. - -

At Burlington Beach, laid off the fishing grounds, on the Bay, as per Licences, and plan as follows;

1. St. L. Bastien, 2. Chains, and 14 Lks

His Boat House is 40 Lks by 24 -

G. House Stable is 25 Lks long, and Shed is 50 Lks by 18.

2. Alex: Rollo, Seine Hauling ground is 180 Yds long, -

3. Mort, Corey, - - - - do. - - - - is 11 chains long, -

4. Daniel McGwyne, - do. - - - - is 11. - - do. - - -

5. F. N. Corey, - - - - do. - - - - is 11. - - do. - - -

6. John Zaeffe, - - - - do. - - - - is 11, - - do. - - -

F. N. Corey, paid me $5. - license fee, the others had no money. - - Wan: McGwyne told me. F. N. Corey was getting up pike gill nets: for to set at Stypes, or in Bill Jages inlet; and he would watch him. - - -

Saw Ben: Folds; but he would not tell me from whom he got the pike, he was fined for by me. - - -

Went out at 8. a. m. came in at 7. p. m. Miles 30, S & B. 2.00, dinner for two, 50 cts. R. Ward

Tuesday, 23, March 1880. -

At Toronto and Toronto Island, with David and Wm Ward, - Edward Hanlan, - a Coloured man, Charles Unwin P. L. S. - and an Assistant. - Mr Unwin planted four posts - as per letter reporting same on 26, instant, went out at 6. a. m. came in at 4. p. m. Miles 48. My way fare $2. - Breakfast, dinner, tea and bed $1.00. - Frazy, Billy Ward - and Wm Ward and Hanlan, satisfied at results. Gave Unwin $5, 3 Stile owe him $3 more. -

Sir,

26, March 1880.

I have the Honor to report that on tuesday last, having previously arranged with Messrs David Ward, and Wm Ward, Patrick Gray, & Edward Stanlaw — I went on Toronto Island; accompanied by Charles Unwin, P.L. Surveyor, and an Assistant, of Toronto; and had four posts planted by Mr Unwin, defining the Southern limits of Ed; Stanlaws fishing in Toronto Bay, the Inlet, and Lake Ontario; and which appeared to give satisfaction to all Concerned. --

After the posts were planted, I produced to Mr Edward Stanlaw, his fishing License, and asked him for the license fee, $30, - he replied he did not have the amount then; but would let me have it in a few days. —

Subsequently Stanlaw said the price was too steep, that when he made his first application at Ottawa, he was informed he could have Stanlaw's point, at the nominal sum of $5, and it appeared strange to have $25, additional tacked on, for the "made land", point. - and said he would write down to Ottawa, and ascertain how it was, before he would pay the Money. — Thus matters then ended. —

Stanlaw, has been offered $2,500, a year for the House and premises ("rent") when Completed. —

Messrs Wards and Gray, fishermen, Toronto Island, consider $30, a year for the fishing privileges cheap, and such is my impression also. —

The Stock bee

The Minister,

F. F. F.

I Stone, F.

John W Kerr

F. O.

FISHING QUESTION.

Some time ago Benjamin Foulds was brought before His Worship the Police Magistrate, charged with having in his possession pike which had been illegally caught in Burlington Bay, for which infringement of the Fishery Act a fine was imposed of $4, also costs $4 70. Foulds, it appears, questioned the decision of the magistrate, and wrote to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries. Overseer Kerr received a reply yesterday to the effect that there do not appear to be any just or equitable grounds on which to disturb the conviction, nor is any reasonable cause shown for remitting the penalty.

SEIZURE.

On Wednesday night Overseer Kerr seized 500 yards of pike gill-nets, in which were eight pike and a lot of speckled bass. The nett and fish were confiscated.

ACCIDENT.

Yesterday afternoon John Anderson, of this city, while working on an iron bridge now being erected near Bronte station on the G. W. Railway, fell from the structure to the ground a distance of about fifty feet. When picked up it was found that his leg was broken and that he was otherwise injured. He had a narrow escape from being killed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Frederick N. Corey denies the report that he convened a meeting of Beach fishermen, and spoke against the Fishery Inspector.

Mr. Stock, Warden of the County of Wentworth, has received an acknowledgment from the Duchess of Marlborough for the $500 forwarded by the county for the Irish relief fund.

Sir,

26. March 1880.

I have the Honor to receive from your a Copy of Mr Wm Gages letter, to the Commissioner, for permission to catch a few pike in Certain waters of B. bay, on his property set apart for the propagation of fish, &c. and referred to me for report. --

In obedience to your Order, I beg most respectfully to report, that only it would create, a sensation and Jealousy, with Simon peter Stype, a near neighbour of Mr Gage, I would without any hesitation recommend the application to be at once granted. -- "For Mr Gage deserves well from the department, in Consequence of the active aid, and Assistance, given to me from time to time, and at all times in the protection of fish in B. bay, during the past 15 years," — "And in doing this, I can assure you, he has never yet wavered." —

"To give the permission to Mr Gage, asks for, without giving a like permission to Simon Stype, would bring down upon me the most vindictive, and uncalled for remarks; and which he has been indulging in, for some time past, without any Cause. --

On the 3rd instant, I made an application, and I recommended that permission might be given to Messrs Wm Gage, S. P. Stype, and Thomas Lottridge, to fish with pike gill nets, and Catch a few pike to eat. --

If the permission was granted to Mr Wm Gage, he would fish in the waters set apart, &c. &c. on his own property. --

If the permission is granted to Messrs Stype, and Lottridge, they will not fish in the waters set apart, &c. but will fish in Inlets, of B. bay, running far up, into their own farms; waters which are not set apart, except only so far, as being preserved by your orders to me; and the provisions of the fishery Act.

3

Old Mr Thomas Lethbridge is blind, of course he will not fish himself, but his son Wm in whom I will place confidence will not exceed the permission you may grant. –

At present, and during the late Winter, fish of every kind has been very scarce; and from the variable kind of weather, very few fish have been thus far speared in B. bay, and as frost still continues, to an extent only sufficient to bar spearing; The permission sought for, by the above persons, I recommend may be granted. – –

As for reports of fish being scarce in B. bay, why it only exists in imagination; White fish, Herring, Bass of the different kinds, Mullets and Suckers, and some pickerel, Salmon, and Salmon Trout, are therein in great quantities; And pike their great enemy are still there, in great numbers. – It is always most desirable to get rid of the pike in a legal way. – –

What I would take the liberty of recommending is, that S. P. Hype, Thomas Lethbridge, and Wm Page, be permitted to fish 200 yards of pike gill nets each, in the respective waters asked for; at the rate of $1. license fee; say up to, and expiring on the 20th of April next, when the spearing privilege will cease. – –

I would not even deny a like privilege to others situated as Mess.rs Page, Lethbridge and Hype are, if they apply. –

I dont know after all, but it would be best to give Mr Wm Page, a Lease, of the waters set apart, on, and in front of his property, as I am convinced he would never abuse it. –

The Lease to be carefully drawn up, to that intent. –

This is of course a matter for the consideration of the Hon; the Ministers, and Commissioner; and with due respect.

The Hon;

The Ministers.

Y. Y. Y.

I Have, &c.,

John W Kerr

J. C.,

Sir,

26. March 1880.

I have the honor, to send you, Bank draft, No: 404, for the sum of Sixteen dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for licenses for this current year, as follows; viz.

1. Mr St. L. Bastean, Hamilton. — For a Seine Hauling ground, No: 2, in B. Bay, on B. Beach, for to fish a Hauling Seine, 150 yards long. — Commencing at a post planted at the south side of the Burlington Canal Reserve; on the east side of B. bay, on B. Beach; Thence south along the beach shore, for a distance of 224, yards, to a post planted in the beach, extending outwards in B. bay, in the front of the same, for a distance of 400 yards, amount sent, please send license, — 10.00,

2, F. N. Coney, B. Beach, For a Seine hauling license, No: 5, in B. bay, received and delivered, — 5.00,

3. Mr Myles. Jordan, For spearing license, in 20 Mile pond, to expire on 20th of april april next, delivered. — 1.00.

Total, $ 16.00

Hon: Minister,
Yr. Yr. Yr.

I have &c.
John McKee
P.O.

Wednesday, 24. March 1880,

Toronto Island, Toronto, and Hamilton, went out at 1.30, p.m., got home at 10.30, p.m., miles 48, Boat 25, Breakfast dinner & tea 45. — Rey Jones paid on Tuesday in Jail. —

Sir,

29. March 1880,--

I have the Honor to enclose herewith, Bank draft No: 414, for the sum of Fifteen dollars.-

Will you be pleased to apply this amount on account of licenses already received, and delivered, for to fish during this current year; as follows;

1. George Lang, Leslieville; "For license to fish - already received and delivered; in full. $5.00
2. William Woolland, Leslieville; "For license to fish, already received; on acct 10.00.

Total $15.00

I beg most respectfully to return Woollands license, please strike out; "This license to expire on 31st March 1880." - and let it be for the entire year; I am satisfied it will not be abused; Mr Woolland is a good deserving man. - When you make the alteration please return to me. -

I Have &c.

Hon: Minister,
&c, &c, &c,

John W Kerr
J. P.

Saturday, 27. March 1880,

At Toronto and back, to see Wm. Woolland, a fisherman, from Leslieville, got important information about Langs petition, went out at 9.15, came in at 6.30. P.M., Miles 88. By fare $2, dinner 60¢. H & B: 1.50,

Paper and Pens 50¢
Telegraphs 55¢
Express Charges 60.

Toadies.

One of the meanest things on earth is a toady. The bluntest, roughest creature that independence ever made is preferable to a fawning, cringing toady, who for the sake of money or favor praises what he detests, flatters without admiring, changes his opinions at a nod, and would lick the dust from the shoes of one in power could he further his own ends thereby.

With some people the toady passes for an amiable soul who likes to please, but could they see him with those from whom he can gain nothing, they would discover their mistake. How he snubs such people! What bitter things he can say; how well he can give the cold shoulder. All the venom he hides when it is his interest to do so, he vents upon those who have neither money nor influence. His very face changes; his smiles are gone; he is cold and snappish; he scowls and frowns.

Wretched toady! Happily, those on whom he fawns are seldom taken in by him, and more happily still, he is a rare specimen of human nature.

The days of kings and courtiers are well nigh over, and republics do not foster the toady. He is dying out, and when at last he shall be but a memory, who will not be glad?

26; March 1880.-

In reply to your letter of the 23rd instant, respecting Mr St, L, Bastien's license in B. bay, on B. beach; I have now the Honor to return the said license recently issued; so that you may be pleased to cancel it, and issue another license to him as follows; -

"Commencing at the post, planted at the South side of the Burlington Canal reserve; on the East side of B. bay, on B. Beach. Thence south, along the Bay shore for a distance of 227. yards; and to extend into B. bay, in front of the same for a distance of 400 yards".-

The purposes of which Mr Bastien requires this License is, for fishing in the first place; "He has a small Seine". But I am aware that it was with the intention of accommodating the guests of the Ocean House as well; that Mr Bastien, was prevailed upon, in the first place to build a Boat House 60"x24" feet, in which to Keep boats, for the purpose of renting out, to such guests, and citizens of Hamilton; for angling and rolling, in B. bay; Then he has a few Bathing boxes, for their accommodation. - -

"The late H. F. Birley, after he purchased on B. Beach licensed this fishing ground; and by some authority, he gave a Ten years Lease to Mr Bastien, of the place he occupied with his Boat House. - After Mr Birley, built the Ocean House, and got established there, he declined to take out, any more fishing licenses there, and having obtained a Patent of the place, from the Local Government, Toronto, he attempted to drive Mr St. L. Bastien away "The patent was soon cancelled however. - It was not until then, that Mr Bastien applied for a fishery license, for himself individually, and which I recommended him for, - and he has been licensed there since. - Mr Birley was hurried to death, in September 1878, so I want say any more about him. - - But I take the liberty of enclosing a letter from Hood, Bros; the present proprietors of the Ocean House, addressed to me, for your perusal. - - -

If Mr Bastien, could obtain a 9. years Lease, from the fisheries department, Ottawa, at an advanced Annual fee; he would build a large Boat House, with a Club room, above, for the accommodation of the Two Boat Clubs, in Hamilton, who would rent it from him. -- Having the angler's and fishing in view, I would take the liberty of recommending Mr H. L. Bastien, for a 9 years Lease, at $20. per year.

In conclusion, I may add, that Mr Bastien, has always been a warm friend and advocate of the Fisheries in B. bay, and has frequently, during the past 15 years, aided and assisted me in many ways in the discharge of my duties, as your Officer, and as I in former reports have before done.

Hon: Minister, I have, &c

&c. &c. &c,

John W. Kerr
F.O.

P.S. At present a portion of Mr Bastien's fishing ground is leased to Alex: Rollo, say up to the 15th May next, with his Consent,

J. W. Kerr F.O.

Wednesday. 31st March 1880. —

At Bastiens Boat House, got my Boat, proceeded down the Bay, found two pieces of pike gill net in Harris Inlet, a piece in Ghents Cove; thence below the H. & N. W. Railway Bridge, and found another piece set across the creek, thence up again, and found a piece of gill net set opposite, Alex Rollos, in Bay, a good many Speckled Bass and 8, pike were gilled the night, thence up in the Bay as far as John Haynes, thence across to Sages Inlet, and put up the two Boats, looked them up, and put in pocket, the Big boat leaked badly, C. J. Kerr, and Edward Kerr, with me, went out at 1.50 p.m. came in at 10.30. p.m. Miles 20, 8 H & B: 1.50, Boys $2. --

Billy Rollo, and Wm Fitch, supposed to own the Net, from appearance Rollo :-

Sir,

25. March 1880. -

In reply, to the petition of Ben: Folds, a licensed fish=erman, on Ms. beach; sent by him to, The Hon: The Minister, of Marine and Fisheries, as an appeal, against a fine of $4. and $4.95 of costs, imposed by James Cahill Esqre J. P. in Hamilton, upon the complaint of J. W. Kerr, fishery Overseer. - "For having a quantity of pike, (about 30.) in his possession, illegally caught with gill nets, and by unlicensed persons, in contravention of the fisheries Act".

I have again the Honor to report, that it would be a wrong move in me, beginning the active duties of my division for the year 1880, to recommend any reduction of fines and costs in this case. - Ben: Folds, sold the pike, to Francis White fish dealer, Hamilton, for $4, hence he gained $4, for he says now, he never paid for them, merely found them on the Ice, in his Ice House; he does not now intend paying for them; that persons have been in the habit of selling him, fish in that way, and they afterwards applied to him for the money, the price of said fish. - That a fine being imposed in this case he had no money to give the person, who caught the pike, and left them, with him for to sell, as before alluded to. -

And refusing to give up the name of the person offenders against the law, I cannot in Justice to well disposed, law abiding fishermen, do otherwise than recommend or report that I believe this case is not one under which the petitioner's appeal to The Minister, can be backed by me, I cannot recommend him, to remit the fine or any portion thereof, unless the petitioner will just give the name of the person from whom he bought the pike; Of course whatever the Minister will do in the premises, will be satisfactory to me.

I Have, &c.

John W Kerr

F. O.

Hon: Minister,

&c. &c. &c.

Sir,

25, March 1880.

I am in receipt of Mr Alexander Robertson's M.P.P. letter in behalf of Mr Black, of the City of Belleville, sent to me by the Department, to report upon; I have the Honor to report, that the licensed fisherman of Toronto Island, with whom I have consulted, and to whom I have read Mr Robertson's letter, give it, as their opinion, and I coincide with them, that no hoop nets should be licensed to fish for mud cats or bull heads in Toronto Bay: "Toronto Bay, proper is 3 Miles long, from the west point "made land" to the Hon, where formerly stood the Swing Bridge; and from Meads Hotel "South" to the City of Toronto, Wharfs, in a direct line is $1\frac{7}{8}$ Miles; Within the said limits fishing with Seines is only permitted during spring in Block House bay, Sun Crow point, and the Bend under licenses. —

About five years ago, the fishing stations now referred to, were established by the fisheries department Ottawa; the Balance of the Bay, and the inlets and Coves thereof being then fixed exclusively by the department, for angling purposes, &c, and for the Citizens of Toronto, this Rule and Regulation of the department has been since strictly adhered to, and Carried out, and duly observed by the Licensed fishermen of the Island, and enforced by me; - And altho' I would like very much to oblige Mr Alexander Robertson, M.P.P, of the City of Belleville, by assisting him in getting a license for, and in behalf of Mr Black, for to fish Hoop Nets in Toronto Bay, still I do not consider under present and existing circumstances, and the state of fishing affairs in Toronto Bay; It would be prudent for me to do so, and I cannot recommend a departure from the arrangement approved of, and fixed, by the fisheries department; Ottawa, five years ago, for the benefit, and recreation of the chief City of the Province of Ontario. —

I have therefore the Honor to report that the application be not granted; I hope and recommend, the Minister will take take Just such a Common Sense view of the Case, and which I hope will meet his approval. —

Hon: Minister

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr,

F.O. —

&, &, &, &

Sir

29. March 1880.

I have the Honor to receive the petition of Geo: W. Badgerow Esqre M.P.P. for East York, a resident of the Town of Markham, 20. Miles away from the place the petition refers to, with 241. others; said to be residents of the City of Toronto, and its locality. This is a mere small per centage of the inhabitants of the Queen City of the west, and Capital of the Province of Ontario; and even this small per Centage do not comprise many wealthy and intelligent people of the Metropolis of Toronto, besides as I am aware about all those people who have signed this petition have never yet observed what they assert, Complain of; and try to make your Honor believe is all true and a great grievance. - -

They never saw, not one of them!! - what they assert, nor has any one else seen it, and they all I believe have been misled by Willy Lang; who himself, it appears does not, and dare not sign a petition which he believes to be false and unfounded in every particular; while he has I hear induced the great majority of those 242. persons to affix their names to the petition. - - please refer to my former report of the 1st March, instant, about Wm Lang. - -

In examining the names of the persons, who signed the petition I find, first of all, the Names of an Inspector of Police, Toronto, Mr W. R. Stuart; also the Head of the Detective Police force, Mr J. Marshall, and detectives Philip Sheahan, J. Reid, S. Burrows, and Edward Brown; besides 30. other police Constables of Toronto; And I will venture to say; that there is not a single man one of amongst these respectable guardians of the people of Toronto, could now if placed on their oaths, prove anything beyond the facts already known to you and the fisheries department Ottawa; that certain fishermen have licenses annually; to fish in certain waters; Ashbridges Bay, The Beach, The Gap, Fox Cove, Black House Bay, and the Humber, and catch legal sized fish, for to supply them to the people of

Toronto; whilst anglers are free Commoners everywhere.—

This is admitted by the licensed fishermen; and they challenge the petitioners, one and all to step forward and prove any of the other alleged complaints made against them, if they can, ...

Of course it is well known, to the Commissioner, to me; and to all the fishermen in my division of Lake Ontario; and the travelling public, on Lake Ontario; during last year; and I reported the same to you; that all thro' the last season; dead bucks, some dead Herring and perch, and a great abundance of shad were observed floating in the waters of Lake Ontario, both dead and dying fishes as above continually, caused by a disease of some kind unknown..

But the fishermen of Toronto Island, and Leslieville; must not, and shall not be held responsible for this!!.

There is a Boat Club, in Leslieville, and Mr Geo: W. Badgerow M. P. P. was elected last year, the President of it and hence why his name now heads the petition; But Mr Badgerow is not aware that two of the fishermen whom he now attempts to have stopped fishing and deprived of their means of living and support voted for him in his last Election.—

Not one of the respectable Boat Owners, or Boat Builders, resident on the Esplanade, Toronto; signed the petition; and the Mail in Globe never advocated such a departure from the Regulations of the Fishery Act...

I will however now take up the petition word for word, and try and explain it, as I go along; "Thus: "Whereas persons are engaged in fishing with Seines gill, and other nets, in the Bay of the City of Toronto, within the Island; and in Ashbridges Bay bay; and other places in, and about the waters of Toronto Bay; and of their Catch a very large per centage are small in Size, and unmarketable, and are destroyed; while only a very small per Centage of the Centage of the catch are large enough for the Market, and are sold by those engaged in such fishing"...

Take those ten lines of the petition, discuss them carefully, Calmly, and deliberately; and the Conclusion arrived

at, is so hidden and abstracted, that if the petitioners will not come out bold, and deliberately, "but failed to do so", by at once giving the names of the fish, the dates, they were destroyed, why! no heed, nor attention should be paid to a petition so vague in itself in this respect. - "For surely where fish are not named in the petition, and for whose protection the act provides; charges made in the fashion above can never be substantiated, take it as you will. *

"And whereas by reason of such mode of taking fish in said waters, and by reason of said destruction of so large a number of the smaller fish in said waters, the number of fish in said waters is being greatly reduced, and fishing by hook and line for pleasure and otherwise, is thereby becoming greatly interfered with and destroyed, and the undersigned petitioners residents of Toronto, the village of Leslieville, and neighbourhood of the City of Toronto, are of opinion, that it would be greatly in the interest of the inhabitants of the City generally, if such mode of fishing by setting seines and nets in said waters, and marshes, were prevented and put a stop to, and do hereby pray, that the same may be stopped and prevented".

In all the petitions, I have been called on by the dept to report upon, this is the greatest piece of effrontery, that has so far come under my notice. - It is not necessary for me to say one word more; the fisheries dept Ottawa, having granted licenses, to certain fishermen on Toronto Island, in Toronto, and Leslieville to fish legally: - The petitioners dare not name the men, who, they hinted at, violated the law; nor yet give the names, of the various kinds of fish they pretend were destroyed. - and the only great object I see the petitioners have in view is Self, the interest of the anglers forsooth, who have endeavoured to hack the sabbath, and having been spoken to, by the licensed fishermen, of Toronto Island, and Leslieville, have taken this mode of revenging their spite and malice against good men, and have.

My dear Sir, — I now enclose to you, your licence for 1880. — Read it carefully over, and you will learn exactly what you can legally do, and the size of meshes, in seine you can fish. Please send me the balance of $5, as soon as convenient. — If you wish to fish gill nets, the licence will be five dollars a year more; I hope you will have good success. — Answer soon. —

Yours truly
John Walker, F.O.

Mr John Haly,
Pickering,
Dunbartonshire, P.O. Office, Ont.

1st April 1880.

My dear Woolland,

I send you back your $4 for licence for the year 1880, having got the Department, Ottawa, to erase out the 31st of March. —

Please let me know what night, I should come down. — Be careful in obeying the law. — As soon as I get the reply to Mr Lang, and Badgerow's petition I will write you. —

Yours truly,
John Walker F.O.

Mr Wm B. Woolland,
Fisherman,
Leslieville, Ont.

Sir,

1st April 1880.

I have the honor to recommend that a small fee, should be charged to Farmers who annually fish for, and catch suckers and Mullets in Salmon Rivers, situated on Lake Ontario, the same not to exceed $3, except in cases where these fish are caught to sell, when the amount should be $5. — If granted and approved of, please answer at once, as the suckers will soon commence to run. — The money obtained, will assist in paying guardians, who protect Salmon, Submitted for your Judgement.

I have &c.
John Walker
F.O.

Hon: The Minister
&c &c &c

Sir

1st April 1880.

I have the Honor to report that on yesterday evening I proceeded to Harris Inlet, Lghouse bone, and to near the Hamilton and North West Railway Bridge in B. bay, Township of Sattfleet, where I found six pieces of pike gill net, which I seized, and found in them eight pike, and Eleven Speckled Bass. - There is 500 yards of Nets. - .

I believe William Rollo, son of Alexander Rollo, a Licensed fisherman on B. beach, is one of the guilty parties, I shall do all within my power to find it out. It is astonishing to me that, Notwithstanding every indulgence they apply for, is granted to B. beach fishermen; still they will break the Law. - I would respectfully ask Mr Whitcher, the Commissioner to write them a Caution through me.

I Have &c,

John Wilkes

J. C.

Hon: Minister,

&c, &c, &c.

Sir

1st April 1880.

I have the Honor to apply to you for 50 public Notices for posting up, of the different close seasons; of the different Kinds of fish in the Province of Ontario; and which you will please let me have as soon as possible. -

I have &c.

John Wilkes J. C.

Hon: Minister,

&c, &c, &c.

Sent Receipts for Salary $125. to the fisheries dept Ottawa, this 1st April 1880.

Wilkes J. C.

Brought up Surplus Charges 60 cts 80 cts and 60 cts

Convictions, $2 Patchett

I may add in Conclusion, the petition does not say, when the offence was committed, as Complained of, to my Certain Knowledge during the past 15. years, and 3 months, nothing of the Kind has occurred. -

Mr Wm Ward, fisherman, wishes me to say; there is about twenty good names on the petition, thirty six policemen.

Then the balance are Freemen, Store blocks, Labourers, Butchers, Bricklayers, Gardiners, and Little bounty Tavern Keepers, &c. &c.

With your approbation, and Craving your indulgence, I must report against granting the prayer of the petition. - The Source from which the petition sprung, is not pure. - I mean of Course Wm Lang, an ex-fisherman. -

Hon: The Minister,
&c, &c, &c,
Ottawa,

I have, &c.
John W. Kerr,
Fishery Overseer,

P. S. - There are quite a number of small pan fish, whom nature has designed at all seasons from large, viz: Rock bass, Speckled bass, Blue sunfish, Speckled sun fish, perch, Mud cats, black suckers, Shiners, Chub, &c, &c, these are not used by petitioners.
J W Kerr F.O.

W. F. Whitcher Esqre
Commissioner of Fisheries,
Ottawa. - -

25. March 1880. -

please don't answer Hamlans letter, until after you get my letter. -

Some one sent Mrs Whitcher a Turkey today.

J. W. Kerr.

My dear Sir,

16. March 1880. -

I am in receipt of your favour of the 15th instant, relative to your House, &c in the Town of Niagara, near the Old Ferry, and of your wish to sell the same to me, for the purpose of erecting a small artificial fish Breeding Hatchery there. - Mr Thomas Elliot, and I examined the place, and I made up my mind then, I would Call and see you on the Subject, and perhaps buy; and altho' I have been twice in Toronto since, and had your address, I had no time to call. - I expect soon, to be in Toronto again, perhaps this week, when I will Call and see you, and endeavour to arrange the matter, you have not said, how much land there is in the Lot.

I am, My dear Sir,
Yr respectfully,
John W. Kerr.

A. Heron Esqre
70. Isabella st
Toronto

Friday 2nd April 1880. –

✓ At Bronte, to see W. D. Pollock, F. Grandrain, there, who reported that on the 1st instant, he seized a small piece of gill net; in the 12. Mile Creek; the property of Isaac Pickard, Village of Bronte. 14. g. net 2½" inch mesh. – Isaac Pickard, took the net from Pollock, and assaulted him in doing so. –

I instructed Pollock, to go at once before Mr Williams a Magistrate, complain of him, and get a warrant for his arrest. See my report to the Hon: The Minister, Ottawa.

Went out at 9. a.m, came in at 4. p.m – Miles 32, My fare and dinner, $1.50. – in all $2.00 cts.

On B. bay, and B. beach; search the Inlets, and Coves for gill nets. – did not find any. – Charles, John, and Edward Kerr, with me. went out at 4.30 p.m. came in at 1.30 a.m, Miles 18. Boat, Horse and Buggies. a decided wet night wet to skin. bed Wm Gage, up and let us in. – – – 50 c.

✓ Monday. 5, April 1880.

At Sus: Bridge and Niagara. found all regular, went out at 4. p.m, came in 8. p.m. Miles 60. – My fare $3.00, – Tea and bed 50 cts.

✓ Tuesday 6. April 1880. –

At Niagara, all day, Breakfast, dinner tea and bed $1. –

Wednesday 7. April 1880. –

✓ At Niagara, Sus: Bridge. Victoria, Bertie and back to Fort Erie. Miles 60. Breakfast, dinner tea and bed $1.75 cts. My fare $1.75 cts. – See report 8th April.

Thursday, 8. April 1880.

✓ At Fort Erie. Buffalo, S: Bridge and Hamilton, ferry 10 cts. Street Car 8 cts. Breakfast 75 cts. My fare $1. Miles 72. – other charges, $1.50 cts.

Sir,

5. April 1880.-

I have the Honor, to submit for your perusal and Consideration, Account, and diary of my actual disbursements for Travel, and petty expenses incurred by me, while on active duty, during quarter ending 31st of March 1880: amounting to $93.95.

Add.-	John W. Kerr, -	For Stationery. -	Voucher.	1.-	2.30.-
"	do.-	" - Postages, -	"	2.-	2.05.-
"	do.-	" - Telegraphs. -	"	3.-	1.26.-
"	do.-	" - Trains. -	"	4.-	1.50.-
"	do.-	" - Office Rent. -	"	5.-	5.00.-
"	do.-	Miles, 713, " - Expenses to Ottawa. -	"	6.-	44.30.-
"	Edward Kerr,	" Boatman. -	"	7.-	14.00.-

Total - - $ 164.36¢

I beg most respectfully to report, that I travelled 2465, Miles; while incurring the Expenses herein set forth. - The same was necessary in every instance. -

And with due respect,

I have, &c.

John W. Kerr
Fishery Overseer

The Honble
The Minister
&c &c &c

– An Irishman, having signed the pledge, was charged soon afterwards with having drank. "'Twas me absentmindedness," said Pat, "an' a habit I have of talkin' wid meself. I sed to meself, sez I, 'Pat, coom in an' have a dhrink.' 'No, zer,' sez I, 'I've sworn of.' 'Thin I'll dhrink alone,' sez I to meself. 'An' I'll wait for yez outside,' sez I. An' whin meself cum out, faith, an' he was dhrunk."

Friday, 9. April 1880.-

At Erakson's Corners, gave Mrs Charlotte Reid, License, for 1880.- "No money yet." thence to Port Credit, saw Jim Wilson, Guardian, sick in bed, Thence to the Sumber, saw Mess.rs O. L. Sticks, and Charles Nurse, arranged matters between them; thence on to Toronto, and back to Hamilton. Miles 90,- Ry fare $2.50¢, dinner 50¢ Breakfast 25¢,

Sent Wm Jaye and Thomas Lottridge, licence to fish until 20th April, at $1. each, to Catch pike, for their own table. C. J. K. delivered the Licences, and got a $1. from each. -

S. P. Styles, read over the Licence, but he declined to accept it, so I returned it, to the fisheries department.

Sir,

8. April 1880.

I have the honor to send you, Bank draft, No: 449. for the sum of Thirty dollars. —

~~of pa~~ Will you be pleased to apply this amount on account of pound net license, granted to Thomas Ramsay, of Fort Erie; for to fish two pounds in Lake Erie, between Point Abino, and Horse point; during this current year. — —

The balance of $30. will be sent next week. —

I Have, &c.

John W Kerr

F. O.

Hon:

Minister,

F. F. F.

Sir,

10, April 1880.

I have the honor to send you Bank draft No: , for the sum of Twelve dollars. — —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, for this current season; as follows; -

1. Charles Nurse. The Strumber, Township of Etobicoke, For a license, the same as last year, the amount is to be $10. but now an after $7.00.
2. William Gage, Barton, License received, and delivered, $1.00.
3. Thos: Cottrridge, do, do, do, 1.00.
4. John Proudfoot. Whitby, For license, to be the same as last year, — $3.00.

Total, $12.00

I Have, &c,

John W Kerr

F. O.

Hon: Minister,

F. F. F.

THE BEACH FISHERMEN.

Stormy Meeting at John Dynes'.

For some days past word was sent around amongst the fishermen of Burlington Beach to rally at Mr. John Dynes' hotel, and last evening a considerable number of them had assembled. Mr. Frederick N. Corey having been chiefly instrumental in calling the meeting, was asked by a brother fisherman what business was to be brought forward. Corey arose and made a speech, attacking the Inspector, Mr. J. W. Kerr, in the most savage manner, declaring that he should be dismissed from the position, as he (Corey) had plenty of charges to bring against him.

Another fisherman present said he had plenty of grievances, too, and that Fred. Corey had been the cause of most of them. At the time he (Corey) was in the employ of Mr. Kerr there was nothing too mean for him to be engaged in both as regards the persecution of his brother fishermen, and illegal fishing as well, and now that his services were not required any longer by Mr. Kerr, he turned Turk on one who not long ago he had pronounced the "best and only man in Canada." Mr. Corey would neither move nor second a resolution to have the grievances spoken of investigated. He said he would rather keep quiet and let some of the others do it.

The meeting was a pretty stormy one, and the instigator of the gathering seemed to have let loose a hornets' nest at his ears.

Saturday, 10. April 1880.

✓ Off to Toronto, to see Stanlaw, & got back his licence, and mailed same to the Department, at Ottawa, by order from Mr S. P. Bansat, also sent back Simon Peter Styfe's licence to Catch fish; as he refused to take it; stating to my son Charles J. it was too late, he had no gill nets; perhaps he would take it next year, and some threats &c. - also sent down $12. - as per letter of this date, went out at 10. a. m, came in at 6.30. p. m, Miles 90. My fare $2.25, dinner 50¢, bab $1.00, - Telegraph 25¢, Boat 25¢.

Monday, 12. April 1880. -

✓ At Jordan, to see Mr Ab: St. Jacobs, - and endeavour to get him to relinquish a portion of his fishing ground to Mr Freeman Buckholtz, on Winners flats - but this he would not yield up; Wrote to J. C. Rykert, Esqre M. P. privately on the subject. went out at 7.30. a. m, came in at 6.30. p. m; Miles 62. My fare $1.40¢ dinner 25¢, Boat 25¢

My dear Peter, 14. April 1880.

On my return from Jordan, this evening; Mr James Miller, Barrister, complained to me that you have been fishing a Hoop net on Sundays; also that you have blocked the Channel in Martindale Creek, by setting near the Bridge on Sr Catherines Road, as you go from thence on towards 15, Mile pond, and Lake Ontario. Now Peter your Conduct is all wrong, and you must instantly stop fishing, until you first pay for your licence $8. - which please send me at once. - when people complain of you, I have no alternative left, but to fine you; surely with all your experience, you should know better,

Yrs &c
John W. Kerr
F. O.

Mr Peter Nuttt,
Pt Dalhousie

Wednesday, 14. April 1880. —

At Jordan, getting live Bass, for Judge Miller &c, & Milton, paid Dick Elliot $3. — also Kaskey $1.50¢, Railway depot, 75¢ — Mr Learnell 1.50. — Ry Jake $1.40¢ dinner 50¢. — Miles 62... 6.75 not charged.

Left the Bass at Mr St. L. Bastians, placed the Zinc pail in bay, and put the Barrel inside and filled it with fresh water. —

Immediate.

My dear David, —

Your license to fish, in the 15 Mile pond, expires this day; On receipt of this Notice, you must remove away from there at once. — —

Close season for Bass, will Commence on to-morrow, so that this sudden notice will not affect you. —

With respect to your license fee, it appears to me, you should give up fishing altogether, and go at something else; for you have never kept faith with me yet.

Yr. &c, &c,

Mr Ed Tyson,
Fisherman

John W Kerr
F. O.,

15. Mile, Pond, Jordan Stn P.O. — 15. April 1880.

Thursday. 15. April 1880. — —

At G. W. Railway, Bastians Boat House, N. W. Ry depot, B. beach, and Milton; with 30 live Bass. Thence away to see a Lake — 7. Miles from Milton — also saw several Speckled Trout, streams; Mr Sam: Panton met me at Station, and the fish were put in pond, under the Railway Br: St. and N. W. Ry — Milton — examined the Milton Pond; saw Stipe Stonor Judge Miller, and Mr Matheson, Barrister, the Registrar, Mr Macnab a second Mr Panton; — they were all kind to me and paid for my dinner, and expenses incurred

in getting them Bass. - Went out at 4.30. a. m. came in at 7.30. p. m. Miles 80. . My fare $1.50. - - and $1.00 = 2.50.
C. J. Kerr. 1.

Postage stamps 35¢ Foolscap. paper 25¢

My dear Sir,

I have been expecting to receive from you daily, the first instalment. $100 of your License fee. - On receipt of this, hurry up, and let me have it immediately. -

Your father on my arrival at Fort Erie, from Ridgeway on the 7th instant, paid me for his License fee, $30. for year 1880. which I endorsed on his License, he promised the balance after he saw you. - please hurry up. -

And with my kind regards to Mrs R &c &c,
believe me.

Yours Sincerely,
John Walker

John W. Ramsey Esq
Point Abino - Fisherman
Ridgeway. Box 40 -

Fishery Inspector, Ont.
19. April 1880. -

P.S. -
God incline your Heart, to Keep the Fisheries Law. -
19. April 1880.
Walker F.O.

Write - Mr Van Vleck, about John Heard, son of Paddy Heard - Wainfleet. Walker F.O.

Saturday. 17. April 1880. -
On B. bay. got two pieces of pike gill net at Hawk's Bay - In pike a lake & speckled bass thereon. C. J. Kerr with me. went out at 1. p. m. came in at 8. p. m. Miles 20.
Boat & grapple 4 men & buggy - 1.50

Met; Conroy, taken me in blanket this 17. April, Duncan McGillivray, caught 15 pike in Stony Creek pond - saw the same on B. bay, further he confessed he caught them in the Bay, J. W. Kerr, Fishery Inspector

PORT DALHOUSIE.

Fishing appears to be the great feature of interest at present. From early morn till late at night, crowds line the Lock, intent on bringing to the light the finny members of the deep; fish are now to be seen on all hands in every direction. One would think if the fish could speak they would with grief, our people had a "mighty taking way." Some were almost led to believe, with the fair promises made as to the prosperity, which would follow with a change of Government and the adoption of the N. P., that the shoals of fish which swarmed our shores were by some means to be increased in number. We will not argue this point, but in view of the facts surrounding us, that many of our people are taking up fishing as a diversion in the prevailing monotony—being unemployed, and the fish being a good set off at present as against all other provisions which have been enhanced in value by the N. P. Pursuing this line of argument, it would not be difficult to make out a pretty strong case that the N. P. has worked badly for the fish. However, in conclusion we would say our fishermen are not selfish in the matter, and any of your townsmen who wish to indulge, by taking a passage at Lock 2 on the yacht Ada Alice, will be landed at the great fishing ground.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FISH CULTURE.—Mr. J. W. Kerr, Fishery Inspector, has returned from Milton, where he had been for the purpose of depositing a colony of bass in a lake close to the town, and which it is proposed to set apart for private fishing, a company having been formed for the purpose. Mr. Kerr obtained the bass from the twenty-mile creek at Jordan and managed to get them to their destination in a fine state of preservation. On bringing them to Hamilton he placed them in the bay at Bastien's boat-house allowing them to remain in over night. Next morning they were again taken out and carried by train to Milton; all swam off when placed in the lake there. The application of the company to have the water set apart for private fishing has been forwarded to the Marine and Fisheries Department at Ottawa where it is expected to receive favorable consideration. A prominent bank manager in Hamilton is interested in the scheme.

Sir,

19. April 1880.

Having purchased from Mr. Andrew Strain, his interest in the House and property referred to in the within Lease, made to him on the 30th day of July 1873; by your department, and situated in the Town of Niagara, in County of Lincoln; containing 1½ acres of land, as therein set forth. - -

I will thank you to give your Sanction to the same, by signing the necessary Consent written on the back of the said Lease herewith; and then please return the same to me. -

The Honble
The Minister of
Militia and Defence,
Ottawa. - -

I Have. &c. &c.
John W Kerr
P. O.
Hamilton Ontario

Address, J. H. Patterson Esqre
Care of J. G. Patterson Esqre
94. King street East,
Hamilton, Ont.

Monday, 19. April 1880. - -

At St: Bridge and Niagara, saw Big Jim. and Alfred Ball - about Charles and Alfred Balls, New fishing ground, and arranged about measuring it off in the next morning, went out at 4. p. m. came in at 10. p. m. Miles 60. My fare $2.75 & tea and bed 50¢.

Tuesday. 20. April 1880. - -

At Niagara, and the four Mile and Two Mile run. laid off Alfred Ball's Semi hauling ground - Alfred Ball, was with me - back to Niagara - and up to Sun; Bridge, and Hamilton; went out 5. a. m. came in at 3 - p. m. Miles 63. My fare 50¢. - Breakfast and dinner 50¢.

Boat 25¢

Sir,

21. April 1880.

I have the honor to submit for your Consideration, and adoption; the petition of Sts Stone Judge Miller, Sheriff G. C. McKindsey, and twelve other gentlemen; resident in the Town of Milton, and County of Halton; praying that Two Ponds of water Containing about 20, Acres, Connected by the Sixteen Mile Creek; and situated on Lots Nos 14, and 15, in the 2d Concession of the Township of Trafalgar, in the County of Halton; be set apart, for the natural or artificial propagation of fish; as per Section 15. of the fisheries Act. –

I have the Honor to recommend that you will be pleased to grant the prayer of the petition; and issue about 50. Copies of the proclamation, setting the same apart. –

I made a personal examination of the waters referred to, on the 15th instant, when I deposited 32, living parent Bass therein; and I have no hesitation in reporting, that the said waters is well adapted for fish Breeding. &c. &c.

I have. &c

Honble Minister F. F.,

John Nelson
F.O.

My dear Sir,

26. April 1880. –

Referring to my letter to you of the 19th inst. I have to remind you; that you have not been up to your time in sending me $100, half of your License Money. for the current year (1880.)

You may remember that you told me on the 7th inst. when I seen you in Ridgeway; you would send me the Money, by Express, the next week. – –

Dont fail to let me have your Money on receipt, so as to Keep me all right with the Fisheries department. Ottawa. –

Yours truly.
John W. Kerr
F.O.

J. W. Kerr Esqre
Ridgeway.
Ont

Sir,

21, April 1880,

I have the honor to apply to you, for a White fish Seine hauling license. for to fish a 300 yard Seine in Lake Ontario in the Township of Niagara, and County of Lincoln; Commencing at an Oak tree, situated on the west boundary of John Boultons Seine hauling ground, thence west along the Lake shore to a Certain Pepperage tree, distance about 400 yards frontage, on said Lake.

I recommend that a license for the same, be given to Messrs Aspad and Charles Ball, of the Town of Niagara at the nominal sum of Five dollars only for this season. —

It is a clean ground, and will require a good deal of Cleaning; for and during this season.

I Have &c.

John W Kerr

F.O.

The
Honble Minister,
&c. &c. &c.

Mailed. 26. April 1880. — Letters: this!. —
1, Charlotte or Francis Reid, — Clarks Corners, —
2, Patrick Gray — The Island, Toronto,
3, Patrick Stand, Merrona. —
4, John H: Matheuson, Milton, —
5, A. L. Sticks, The Number,
6, Thos: White, M. P. Ottawa.
7, Alpen Bass. — Niagara

postages 50 ¢ paper 20 ¢,
Envelopes 20 ¢,

My dear Albert,

26. April 1880.-

I got up your License on yesterday, the boundary to fish is just as you and I, laid it off.- That is in front of the space in Lake Ontario between the Oak tree on the west side of John Bolton's Seine hauling ground, and the Peppermage tree; say about 400. yards frontage....

I will try, and come down the latter end of the week, or as soon as I learn you are catching white fish... I hope you will have good luck... I suppose the recent cold spell, and blow stopped all fishing in the Rivers, and elsewhere...

My kind regards to you and yours.-

Yours Sincerely

John Wilkes F.O.

Mr Alfred Ball,
Fisherman,
Niagara, Ont.

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 26th duly received, I will attend to the Hutchman, "Peter Math", next week.-

I am much obliged to you for the information..

I will come down and see you first.

Yours Sincerely.-

John Wilkes F.O.

29. April 1880.-

Mr
A. H. Miles,
Jordan Station,
Post Office.

My dear Sir, 4. May 1880.—

Your application for to fish 12) lat fish Stoop nets in your Marsh is received.—

As your letter is so vague, on the subject, I will run down and see you about the latter end of this week.—

I dont know what you will have to pay).— Because I cannot tell you at present, whether the fisheries department, at Ottawa, will grant you a License or not.—

I never grant any licenses direct myself, but I apply for them, and procure them from Ottawa, when application is made.

Mr M. K. Humphreys
Esplanade st.
Opposite Fuel Association.
Toronto.

Yours truly,
John W Kerr.
F. overseer
Hamilton.

Mr David Werner,
Lucerne.
Ont.

As you were twice convicted and fined during the past year of 1879. for Contraventions of the Fisheries Act, I beg to inform you, that I am instructed by the fishery dept Ottawa, that no fishing licenses will be issued to you to fish in Niagara River, at Lucerne, during this year of 1880.

I return you herewith, the sum of $3.— which you sent me on acct of the License; and which I could not recommend to be granted, for the reasons herein set forth.—

Yrs Respectfully
John W Kerr
F. O

Hamilton, Ont
5. May 1880.

P.S. You must remove your Machine and Shanty off the fishing ground immediately. Yrs &
W Kerr, F.O

My dear Sir,

This will introduce to you John Stand, the fisherman, I wrote you about, and whom you advised to send forward. —

I hope he will prove himself a good steady, sober hard working, industrious young man, and profitable to you in your fishing business. —

Yours respectfully. —
John W Kerr. F.O. —
Hamilton Ont.
4. May 1880.

J. B. Vanblack Esqre
H. H. H.
Vanblack. —
On Georgian Bay.
Ont.

My dear Sir, 5. May 1880.

I have just been informed, that you have rented your lower Machine, next to Gabriels - to some man in Lewiston, to fish it this year. - If this be so, I must candidly tell you, that I cannot, and will not recommend you to the fisheries department, Ottawa, for a License there this year. —

There has been so much bad blood, last year, amongst fishermen, at Queenston, that I must not, nor will not recommend licenses in future to be issued where fishing grounds are so close together, as yours, and Gabriel's, so you will understand me in this matter. —

Yours truly
John W Kerr F.O.

John Wadsworth.
Queenston.

please send me $5.
for your lepper ground and Machine —
J. W. Kerr F.O.

My dear Sir!

5. May 1880,

Your letter was duly received, some time since; and I fully made up my mind, at the time to answer it; but I find I have not done so; You can have the (2) lots you applied for.

Will you be so good, as to keep a look out for David Herber, and when he arrives at Queenston, please give him, the $3, dollars, and note addressed to him, you will find enclosed herewith, at the same time, please read the same for him, and oblige,

James Wynne Esqre
Customs Officer,
Queenston,

Yours Sincerely,
J. W. Kerr P.O.

7. May 1880. —
Wrote John Eagle, Metal Keeper, Wastow, Ontario
" Pat° Hand, Merioma, Ontario. —

Money received,
Peter Nath $4. George White, $5.
Thomas Mansfield $3.— Joe Gabriel & Stewart $3. —

Jane Emily J. Ker $1.25 — 8, May 1880.
and Wrote A. Lightbody — The Stumber, Minnesota P.O.
this 8. May 1880.

My dear Sir,

5. May 1880.-

I am just in receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, with reference to John Wadsworth, commencing to fish, or preparing to commence fishing, on Lot No: 2, in the Niagara River at Queenston. —

Now the very best thing for you to do, is apply for all the fishing grounds in the Niagara River, at Queenston, pay down the money, for them, before you commence to fish, which is according to the wording of the License, and instructions from the department, to the same effect. — Then I hope you will be satisfied. —

Last year, you lawed away at Have Dekker, and now the fisheries department, at Ottawa, will have to pay Mr Wm Kerby, the Magistrate at Niagara, for trying your case, It is too bad you cannot live and let live. —

While I am always ready and willing to oblige you, in every way possible, you must always still bear in mind; that I have a perfect right sometimes, to consider myself as Owner of fishing not altogether for the exclusive benefit of Joseph Gabriel Sr. of Queenston but for the other fishermen, who also fish, and make it a rule to pay before they begin. — If I am to stop John Wadsworth, or who ever he engages to fish on Lot No: 2, Why! you will have to pay me your own rent, and his, because you will reap all the entire benefit. — Why dont you buy John out, and then enjoy it all yourself. —

I will come down shortly, and I will endeavour to fix matters for you all, if I can, but I dont expect to be able to do so. —

Please tell Joe, I received his $3, for the spearing grounds, for himself and his brother in law Mr Stewart, but with them it will have to lead. —

They Cant Sublet to others, as no man can fish or spear without a license, and if they do, Why! they will be fined. —

Please tele All illegal fishing, particularly amongst licensed fishermen, must be stopped and put an end to. —

And so mote it be, I will write John Wadsworth and prevent him, from putting in his Machine, above yours, but will my doing this, satisfy you for the rest of this year. — Or how soon will it be, before you have something else to complain of. —

I Cannot Countenance fishermen laweing each other any more, unless they pay the Magistrate his fees first, and all witness fees before hand. —

What advantage is it, to deprive David Walker, or John Wadsworth, of their license to fish, however I suppose it has to be done; because the fishing department, Ottawa, has instructed me, that David Walker, should not get a License this year. —

I speak plain and above board, so that you may not be surprised at my doing so. —

Believe me as ever, —

Yours Truly

Joseph Gabriel Sr. Johnston. John Walker J. P.

Telegraph 25¢, paper 20¢, postage 25¢,
do. 25¢

Sir,

10. May 1880. -

I have the Honor to send you, Bank draft No; 27. for the sum of Ten dollars. -

Will you be pleased, to apply this amount for this current year, as follows;

Mr Thomas Lowe, B. Beach; For Seine hauling license to fish on Lot No: 7, in B. bay; say up to the 24th May, received and delivered. - $5.00.

2. William Malzey Stanilton, - For a Seine hauling license to fish on lot No: 2, in B. bay, on B. Beach, during this current Season; Commencing at the South end of the St. L. Bastien's Seine hauling ground, thence South for a distance of 221. feet, to a post planted on said beach; and to extend from the beach, in front of the said distance, into the waters of the Bay, for the full distance of 400 yards — $5.00 c.

Total $10.00 c.

Licenses already received and delivered. —

The Hon: The Minister, M. M. M.

I Have, &c.
John W. Ke[illegible]
P.O.

Saturday 8. May 1880. --

On B. bay, - laid off two fishing grounds on B. bay on B. beach, Commencing at the painted post, planted between the Canal, and Fishery Reserves; Thence 221. feet, for St. L. Bastien, and thence from St. L. Bastiens - Southern stake 221, for Wm. Malzie staked off same; C. J. Kerr, with me. --

Went out at 2.30. p. m; came in at 7.30. p. m Miles 24. St. & B - 2.00 c. — The licenses run out 400 yards in the Bay —

Saw Mayor O'Keefe, M.C; Stat. Lee Dem on Beach, and talked with them. —

Sir.

12. May 1880.—

I Have the honor to apply to you for a Boat license, for to fish 2000. yards of Salmon Trout, White fish, and Herring gill nets, in Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Grantham, to extend into the Lake in front of the said township for a distance of five Miles.—

The license is to be — $5.00.

The license to be issued to Peter Hath, a fisherman at Port Walhousie.—

2. Peter Hath, Port Walhousie; For a license to fish one Hoop Net, in Martindales Creek, for to Catch small Catfish; all other kinds of fish caught therein to be instantly liberated alive.— The meshes in the said net to be 2½ inches extension measure.— The fee for fishing this Hoop net, to be for this Season $3.

The Main Channel, must not be obstructed by the Setting of this Hoop Net.

I Have &c.

The Hon: The Minister. John Walker

&. &. &. = F.O.

Monday 17. May 1880.—

On B. Beach, "F. N. Corey - paid me $4, being in full for his White fish Seine hauling license in L. Ontario, for year 1880;- went out at 5. a. m. came in at 9.15. a. m Miles 24. 54 B. $2.00. Breakfast for two 50. — C. F. K

"Thence to Toronto, and Toronto Island, saw the Seine Hauling at the Cut. went out 10. a. m. came in at 12. Mid night. Miles 58. My fare 2, dinner tea and bed 75. Boat 1.00. Inspected Fish Shanties built, and building at the Bend; Ashbridges Bay. (10) in all. — Saw Billy Ward; —

2.50
1.75
2
6.25

Hamilton, Ont.,
11. May 1880. —

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt, of your "Canada Post Card", And in reply, I beg to inform you, that I applied to The Honble The Minister of Militia and Defence, at Ottawa; to empower you by giving his Consent to you; to transfer the Lease to me; and I sent the same enclosed to the Commissioner of Fisheries; I expect daily to hear from Ottawa, when I will come down at once, and wind up the business. —

I have had my Name placed in the Assessment Roll have taken possession of the House and lot, in the meantime; have had some pruning done on the trees, and fence repaired. —

I will write Mr Whitcher, the Commissioner of Fisheries, Ottawa; this evening to hurry up the Consent of the Minister of Militia, &c. &c. —

Believe me, My dear Sir
Yours Sincerely,
John W Kerr

Andrew Heron Esq.
70. Isabella, St.
Toronto.

Hamilton,
11. May 1880.

P.S.

I have had three transfer Leases drawn up by a Lawyer, soon after I saw you, and they are still in my Keeping, waiting for the Consent of the Minister of Militia's for the transfer to be made by you. Yours &c

J W Kerr

FISHERMEN LAUGH AT THE LAW.

Sir,

12. May 1880.-

I have the honor to apply to you for licences for the undermentioned fishermen, and I beg most respectfully to recommend, that you will be pleased to issue the same for this Current season. - -

1. Mr George White, of Whitby, - "For a Seine hauling license at Whitby Harbour, in Lake Ontario, to be the same as last year. - - $ & 5.00.

2. Francis Portineé, Gates Gulley, Scarborough, - "For a net license to fish 2.000, yards of White fish and Salmon Trout gill nets, in Lake Ontario, in front of the township of Scarboro; Same as last year, - - $ & 5.00.

3. Messrs Joseph Gabriel Jr and James Stewart, of Queenston; - "For a license to spear Sturgeon, on fishing stations Nos: 18. and 19, - in the Niagara River, at the Queenston Heights; license fee to be, - $ & 6.00.

4. Mr James Wynne, of Queenston; "For a license to fish a Machine on fishing station No: 14. in the Niagara River, at Queenston Heights, also to have the privilege of using the bank of the Niagara River, - "Dominion Government property" in front of fishing station No: 15, as an anchorage; the license fee to be, $ 5.

5. Joseph Gabriel Sr of Queenston; "For a license to fish a Machine on fishing station No: 1. in the Niagara River, at Queenston Heights, and to retain from said station No: 1. down the said River to the Queenston Wharf, the license fee, is to be, - $ & 5.00,

Honble

I Have, &c.

The Minister
&c. &c. &c.

John McLean
J.P.

Sir,

12. May 1880.

I have the honor, to apply to you, for a White fish Seine hauling license; of legal size in the meshes, - 300 yards long, to be fished in Lake Ontario, at Frenchman's Bay, by Thomas Mansfield, on the same Seine hauling ground, East of the Harbour there, usually occupied by him. -

"If salmon, or small White fish, should be accidently hauled in, they must be instantly liberated alive;"

"And no Seine hauling, shall be permitted after 6. o'clock, p.m, on Saturday night, nor before 6. o'clock, a.m. on the following monday morning."

The license fee to be, $ 5.00,

2, "Thomas Mansfield; Frenchman's Bay: "For a Boat license to fish 2.000, yards of Salmon Trout, White fish, and Herring gill nets, in Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Pickering, during this current year;" and to extend into the said Lake, for a distance of five Miles. - The license fee to be, $ 5.00,

I Have, &c,

John W. Kerr

J. Cousser

Honble Minister, &c, &c,

Tuesday 18. May 1880. -

1/ At Toronto Island, City of Toronto. John Cousser paid me $ 10, for self, and Billy Montgomery - Mrs Doyle paid me $ 3.. for license fee, for James Steine, and Alfred, Patrick Gray, paid me $ 20, license fee on afternoon out at 6.30. a.m. got Home on the Mountain at 2.30. p.m. Miles 46. Breakfast 25 ¢, Boat $ 25, $ 25, Total $ 75.

Copy.

Acton, Ontario,

May 8th 1880.-

J W Kerr Esqre

Sir,

I want to get some black bass, to stock a large Mill pond here, nice spring water. Please say if you can supply them.- You will know the best way to do it, and what will it cost, and when should I get them.- An early reply will much oblige Your Obt Servant

James Matthews

Office of do,

General Merchant.

Sir,

Acton, 12. May 1880.-

I have the Honor to attach, an application, I have received from Mr James Matthews, General Merchant, Acton, Ontario, applying for live Bass, to stock a pond in that locality.- There will not be any difficulty, and the expense will not be much.- provided you will permit me to catch them, with a Scoop net in that part of Bay, in front of Mr Wm Jages property in the township of Bantry: Set apart for the natural, and artificial propagation of fish, &c.-

I also want permission to procure live bass, in the same place, for his Honor Judge Miller, and other Gentlemen, resident in Milton, for a like purpose.- I dont desire however, to commence getting any live bass, until Close season terminates.

If this matter meets your approval, I would respectfully recommend, that the permission granted to me, may be general.-

I Have &c

John W Kerr

F.O.

The

Hon: Minister

&c &c

Sir,

19. May 1880.—

I have the Honor to send you, Bank draft, #40:50. for the sum of Thirty four dollars.—

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, as follows; for this current season; (1880.)

1. Messrs David Ward, Patrick Gray, and William Ward, fishermen off of Toronto Island; "For Balance of Seine hauling license in full. — 20.00.

2. John Funcell & Co^y. Toronto; "For a boat license already received, &c." on acct. 5.00.

3. Alex: Rollo, Burlington Beach; "For Seine hauling license in B. bay, on B. Beach, to expire on 25th of this month, (May)" 5.00.

4. Peter Math, Port Dalhousie, on account of licenses already received. — — 4.00.

Total $34.00

Hon: Minister,
&c. &c. &c.

I Have &c.
John Walton
Jr.

Wednesday, 19. May 1880.—

At Sus: Bridge, on the town of Niagara; up as far as the Four Mile from fisheries — Saw Robert John Allan, James Cardwell, Albert Beal, and John Boulton back to Mr Thomas Elliots again. Heard that Billy Mr Gray, sold fish during the close season, Jack Boulton, and Charles Sherlock, fished on this, went out at 3. p. m. came in at 12. Midnight, Miles 65. My fare $3.00, Boat hire $1.00. Tea, and bed 50 cts

Sir,

19. May 1880.

I Have the honor to report for your information, that on visiting the Fisheries of Toronto Island, on Monday last the 17th instant; I found five New Shanties erected, and in course of being erected on the "Fishery reserve", of one chain, at the Bend, on the Toronto Bay, frontage, but on the Ashbridges portion of the beach, as at present licensed to Messrs Patrick Gray, David and Wm Ward and James Simpson, fishermen. —

At some distance, nearer to the mouth of the Don, I saw the frame of another shanty. I have to report that none of the persons who are putting up these shanties, are fishermen. — —

On last sunday, 16th instant, a number of young men, Carpenters, went on the beach, and put up a frame and flooring of a New shanty 12' X 18' feet. —

Mr Patrick Gray, fisherman, visited the place with me. — I submit the matter for your information, and having taken down the names of the owners, await your Orders before taking any further action in the premises.

I Have &c.

John W Kerr
F. O.

Hon: Minister,
&c. &c. &c.

Thursday. 20. May 1880.

1. At Niagara, all day. Jack Bolton again complaining of Billy Humphrey, for selling fish during the Close season, Receiving license Monies. — Board $1.00, &c, 50¢ (1)

Sir,

19. May 1880.

I have the Honor to report, that on the 26th of March last, I remitted to you, Bank draft No: 407, for sixteen dollars.. fishing license fees. — —

In the given details of this amount, you will please give the name of St. L. Bastien, of Hamilton, given there, for the sum of $10; Say for fishing station No: 2, in B. bay, on B, beach, for the current season. —

Since then, as per your letter to me dated 30th of April last, handed to me by Thomas Robertson Esqre M.P., for the City of Hamilton; you have thought proper, to divide or Curtail Mr St. L. Bastien's fishing ground, giving 221' feet frontage to St. L. Bastien, and granting a license to Wm. Massie, of Hamilton, which has been all since staked off, by me; as per respective licenses granted. —

Now then, what I require to be done in this case is, seeing that you have been pleased to reduce Mr St. L. Bastien's license fee, "already paid, at that date" from 10, to 5, dollars; for a license granted to Mr George White, of Whitby, and I will pay back 5, to Mr St. L. Bastien. — I have no further request to make in this matter.

Hon: Minister, I Have, &c,
&. &. &. John W. Kerr
F. O.

Friday 21. May 1880. —

At the fisheries, the 2, and 4, Mile ponds, thence back to Niagara again, and thence to St Catherine and Hamilton, &c, went out at 4. a. m. came in at 6.20. p. m. Miles 56. Stage 75. Breakfast and dinner 75. 14 & B. 1.00. &c 2.50.

Important. 102..

My dear Ramsey, — 19. May 1880.

I cannot for the life of me, imagine, what has come over you; why is it, that you have not sent me, as you faithfully promised me, you would; your just half ($100.) of license fee . . —

I find by my diary, I was at your place on the 7th of April last, and I was to have had just half, the very next week. — By the way, you are acting; you will get either you or I, into trouble; perhaps us both!! —

Then your father promised to send me balance of his fishery license fee, $30, and even this, thus far, I have not yet received. —

I must read for you the Law on Licenses; Sub Section 3. of Section 45, of the Fisheries Act, reads as follows; "Copy follows here". —

Now then please let me have your Money forthwith; The Ottawa officials have been writing me about it; dont fail!.

My kind respects to Mrs, Norbert, and the little one, Believe me

J. W. Ramsey Esq Yours Sincerely,
Box 40, John W Kerr
Ridgeway: P. Office; F. O.

Monday, 24. May 1880.

On B. Beach, inspecting and measuring White fish Seines, Jack Gaffe's Seine "Centre" ordered out, Haw; McGa measured, not yet seamed, — all the rest correct, heard from Haw; that F. N. C, had got the supplying of the Ocean House, with White fish, and if I watched about 3. o'clock, a. m. on Monday morning, I would find his Seine hauling; went out at 2. a. m. came in at 11.30, a. m. Miles 30. 544 Bs. 1.50. Breakfast for two 50¢. S. Kerr, with me. —

Sir,

22. May 1880.

I have the Honor to send you herewith, Bank draft, No. 64, for the sum of Eighty dollars. - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, for this current Season, as follows;

1. Thomas Elliot, and boy, - Town of Niagara, - "For Seine hauling grounds in the Niagara River, and Lake Ontario, already received, and delivered; $20.00.

2, John Bolton, Town of Niagara, "For Seine hauling license, already received, and delivered. - - L. Ont. 15.00,

3. Messrs. Albert Ball, & Bro., Town of Niagara, "For a Seine hauling license in L. Ontario, west of the Two Mile pond, already received. 5.00,

4, Messrs. Albert Ball & Bro., Town of Niagara, "For a Seine hauling license, in Lake Ontario, at the Tannaries, received and delivered. - - 10.00,

5, James Cantwell, Town of Niagara, "For Seine hauling ground in Lake Ontario, between the Two and Four Mile ponds. - - 15.00,

6, Robert John Allan, Town of Niagara, "For Seine hauling license in Lake Ontario, between the Two and Four Mile ponds. - 15.00.

Total, $80.00.

Hon. Minister, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
John Wicker
F.O.

See page for $110. over

Wm Kerr 5.
L. Kerr 5.
L. Jackson 15.
8.00

Annie Kerr 5, J. 5.

Wicker
F.O.

fish 1.50,
1.25
50
$3.25

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Mr. Robert Watt, one of the fishery inspectors for Western Ontario, has been dismissed, to make room for Mr. W. P. Croome, a friend of the present Government. Mr. Whitcher, of the Fisheries Department at Ottawa, alleges that Mr. Watt was dismissed "on the proven facts of his having neglected his duty," but the first intimation the latter received of any such charge against him was his notice of dismissal. The Civil Service guillotine does its work well.

104,-

Sir,

31. May 1880. —

I have the honor to send you Bank draft No; 81. for the sum of Forty eight dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, as follows; for this current season; (1880.)

1. Thomas Mansfield, fisherman, Frenchmans bay, For a boat license, to fish 2,000 yards of White fish, Salmon Trout or Herring gill nets, in Lake Ontario off Frenchmans bay, opposite the Township of Pickering, at the rate per Season, $ ct. 5.00.

2, Thomas Mansfield, do, do, For a White fish Seine hauling ground, in L. Ontario, at Frenchmans Bay, to fish a 300 yds legal Seine, at the rate per season 10. $ now sent you $ ct. 8.00.

3. Mortimer Corey, fisherman, Burlington Beach; For a Seine hauling ground in B. bay, on B. beach, Station No: 6, for the privilege of fishing a Herring Seine 250 yards long, up to the 15th of May only, - - $5.00 ct.

4, Thomas Ramsay, of Fort Erie, For balance in full, to fish two points, Nets, in Lake Erie, between Pt Abino, and Haras point, during the current season, draft No. 449, then sent, $30.00 ct

Total, $48.00 ct

Hon; Minister

I Have, &c,

John H Kerr

HAMILTON, June 18.

FISHERY CASES.

To-day Peter Nath was brought before James W Keating, J.P., in St. Catharines, charged with catching bass during the close season. The defendant was fined $5 and costs. Elgin Disher, for similar offence, was fined $1 and costs. Inspector Kerr, of this city, was the complainant.

Frederick N. Corey, a Burlington Beach fisherman, called a meeting of his brethren at Corey's Hotel yesterday, for the purpose, ostensibly, of condemning the conduct of Inspector Kerr. After Corey had concluded his vituperative remarks, other fishermen plainly stated that Corey had had some spite against Mr. Kerr, whose employ he was formerly in, and the meeting ended in a censure upon the convener. N. Corey was recently before the Magistrate for an attempt to throw a train on the Hamilton and North-Western Railway off the track, but, owing to a breach in the chain of evidence against him, he escaped punishment.

A WASP'S STRATEGY.—Mr. Seth Green says that one morning, when he was watching a spider's nest, a mud wasp alighted within an inch or two of the nest, on the side opposite the opening. Creeping noiselessly around toward the entrance to the nest, the wasp stopped a little short of it, and for a moment remained perfectly quiet. Then reaching out one of his antennæ, he wriggled it before the opening and withdrew it. This overture had the desired effect, for the boss of the nest, as large a spider as one ordinarily sees, came out to see what was wrong and to set it to rights. No sooner had the spider emerged to that point at which he was at the worst disadvantage, than the wasp, with a quick movement, thrust his sting into the body of his foe, killing him easily and almost instantly. The experiment was repeated on the part of the wasp, and when there was no response from the inside he became satisfied, probably, that he held the fort. At all events he proceeded to enter the nest and slaughter the young spiders, which were afterward lugged off one at a time.

DEAR BIRDS.

A Salutary Warning to Pot-Hunters.

By Telegraph to The Mail.]

WELLAND, May 4.—Mr. S. D. Woodruff, of St. Catharines, to-day appeared before the Mayor to answer to a charge of killing game out of season. He was charged with killing four birds, and pleaded guilty. The Mayor imposed a fine of $10 for each bird, and $6 costs, which was paid. The prosecutor was the County Inspector, who is a member of the County of Welland Game Protective Association.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Jan. 30.—Parnell was speaking here to-night. Referring to Lord Alfred Churchill's cable dispatch, he said: This young nobleman says my statement that the relief fund of the Duchess of Marlborough is being administered for political purposes is false. Now, I have the best and most recent information from the distressed districts that my statement is absolutely true, and all persons out of favor with their landlords are precluded from participation. More than one parish priest has already complained that the fund is being administered for sectarian purposes. The word of a descendant, on the one hand, of the notorious Sarah Jennings, mistress of the Duke of York, and on the other hand of Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough, of whom Macauley writes "that he owed his rise to his sister's dishonor and that he had been kept by the most profuse, imperious and shameless of harlots," will be scanned somewhat closely by the American people, who, at least, can boast that their ancestors were honest men and women. Adverting to the Mansion House Committee, Parnell said that apart from the hierarchy there was not a single member of it who possessed the confidence or respect of the Irish people. Parnell also spoke to-night at Holyoke to the same effect, the proceeds of both meetings amounting to $2,000.

Sir,

22, May 1880.

I have the honor to send you, Bank draft No: 64, for the sum of One Hundred and Ninety dollars.

In the accompanying letter of this date, you will please give Eighty dollars, already accounted for. - - -

Will you be pleased to apply the balance $110, since received, as follows; - for this further Service: -

1, F. N. Corey, Fisherman, B. beach, "For a white fish Seine hauling ground license, in Lake Erie on B. beach, received and delivered. $ ¢ 10.00.

2, John W. Ramsey, Fisherman, Ridgeway; - "For ground net license in Lake Erie, between Wind Mill, and points Albion, sent on after. 100.00.

Total $ 110.00¢

Hon: Minister, I have &c.
&c. &c. &c.
John Wilson,
F. O.

Enk. 25¢

Wednesday 26, May 1880. -

On B. Beach, saw Dan: McGuyne, David Fitch, and Mortimer Corey - haul - proposed to assist M - Corey, to get up a White fish Seine - if the fishermen would help. - the Monday morning Seine fishing, was again alluded to by Dan: went out at 7, p. m. came in at 2.30. a. m, Miles 24 - H & B. - 1.50. E. Kerr with me. -

Friday, 28, May 1880,

At Port Credit, and Clarksons Corners, found all correct; Mr Reid, just Commenced to fish, went out at 5.50, a. m. came in at 4.30, p. m Miles 40, Ry fare, $ 2, Breakfast and dinner 50¢ H & B. $ 1. -

My dear Sir,

31, May 1880.

Your favours, (both,) received; your Seine hauling license is ten dollars, for the season; I cannot make it less; your Boat License $5, I will not make it any more; Now then as regards Mr Sol: Wright, $5. a year, is his fixed standing license, nothing more, nothing less. --

Now as regards Stones, he has never yet been the man to pay a license fee like a man. - -

You say in your letter of the 5th of May; "If there is anything you have to tele me, or you want to know, I will try and oblige you". In answer to this, If there is any thing wrong going on, I wish you to let me know, and be particular yourself, in obeying the law; as set forth in your Seine hauling and Boat Licence, now sent you by Mail. -- How is John Daley getting on, or Joe Blacker, Seining grounds, Let me know, and oblige

Mr Thos: Mansfield,

Yrs Sincerely

John W Kerr F.O.

Private.

Have you heard how many Salmon were caught at the mouth of Duffins Creek, last fall; Did Stones fish for pike in Frenchmans bay, last spring with pike gill nets. please answer!

Yrs J W Kerr F.O.

31, May 1880,

Monday, 31. May 1880.

At Toronto, to see Wm Woolland, fisherman, of Leslieville, went out at 8:30, a. m. came in at 6. p. m. Miles 88. Ref fare. 2.00. dinner 30¢, and Street Ref 10¢.

H Y Bs 1.50.

My dear Sir,

I have duly received your Express package for $100, just half of your Pound Net (4) license fee for 1880, please send balance when ever Convenient; I sent the same to the department Ottawa, on 22, May, and I also received package from your father, Mr Thomas Ramsay, Containing $30.- being in full for his Pound Net license (2.) between point Abino, and Navas point, in Lake Erie: and this amount, I have also sent to the department.

I hope you will see that your men fish legally, and obey the laws at all times. - -

The Quesnel, for Pt. Dover, and Turkey point, has been reported, for allowing pound net fishermen to catch pickerel during close season. -

And also for not lifting the Tunnels, between 6, o.c.k on saturday evening, and 6. o. c. k, following monday morning: and I have received orders to go up there, investigate the charges, and report to The Hon; The Minister; I hope you will always keep things so straight, that no one can complain. —

And with my Kind respects, &c. &c. &c.

J. W. Ramsay Esqre
Box 40. P.O.
Ridgeway. Ont.

Yrs Sincerely.
John W Kerr J.O.
31. May 1880.

Wrote Harry Sheppard. Queenston, this 31st of May 1880.- J. W. Kerr, J. O. - -

Sir

31. May 1880.

I have the Honor to apply to you, for Boat Licenses, for the undernamed fishermen, resident at Niagara, for to fish Gill Nets in Lake Ontario, between Kennedy's Hollow; and the Town Line, eight Mile Creek; all in front of the Township of Niagara; for this current season; - viz.

1. John Bolton, fisherman, Niagara; For to fish 3,000. yards of White fish, pickerel or Herring gill nets, in Lake Ontario, between Kennedy's Hollow, and Eight mile Creek, in front of the Township of Niagara, to extend out four Miles in Lake; but Herring nor pickerel nets shall not be set where they will catch White fish, under the penalty of this, fine imposed nets and boat Confiscated, licenses being instantly Cancelled. — $ ¢ 5.00.
2. Alfred and Charles Ball, do, do, do. 5.00.
3. Robert J. Allan. - do, do. do. 5.00.
4. James Cantwell. do, do. do 5.00.
5. Malj^s John Keith and Joe Masters, do. do. do 5.00

Hon: Minister.

I have &c.

John W Kerr
J. P.

Tuesday. 1st June 1880.

At St. Catharines. laid Complaint before J. W. Keating Esqre. J. P., against Peter, Nath Port Dalhousie J. B. Smith, Elgin Wisher, and Wm. Gregory, for fishing for, Catching and having in their possession Bass. during close season, in Contravention of the Fishery Act, - also got out Summonses for Witnesses vizt. Alf Kaskey, Ephraim Singer, Andrew Clegh, and Solomon Wisner -

went out at 8. a. m. came in at 4. p. m.

Miles 72. Ry fare 2.00 + 20¢, Bus 45¢, $ ¢ 2.65

dinner 50. C.H & B. ~~2.00~~ — 50¢, and 1.00

Mailed Summonses, Subpoenas, and Convictions to J. W. Keating Esqre. J. P. St Catharines this afternoon 1st of June 1880, J. W. D. -

1st June 1880. Continued,

On N. Beach, measured David Fitch, and Alex: Rollo's and Dan: McGuynes white fish Seines, passed the 2" inch square block through Centres and several other meshes, all O.K. this time; thus far.-- went out at 5. p.m. came in at 11. p.m. Miles 24. S&B - $1.50. C. J. Kerr, with me, all regular. - Dan: McG - said he did not think F. N. C. fished on Sunday night. - he might have done so, he however did not think so. - - - Bob Webster, had no fish at the □, he had Cabbage plants. - And that F. N. C. had a disposition at present to obey the Laws, but as soon as fish get scarce, he would break the laws; any Sunday night, by and bye between 12. and 3. oclock, a. m. he could be caught. -

Wednesday, 2nd June 1880. - - -

At S: Bridge, Queenston, and Niagara; found Mr James Wynne at Queenston, gave him his license for Station No: 14. he did not pay me. gave Joe Gabriel Jr. his license for stations 18. and 19. - gave Joe Gabriel Sr his license for station No: 1. - he paid me $3. - Thence to Niagara, in the evening Harry Sheppard, fisherman, Queenston, came down to me, and told me had received my letter, and would like to pay any fine imposed upon old Billy Humphrey - pedlar, for Having pickerel in his possession on 7th May, at Queenston, in Contravention of the Fisheries act; Mr Kelly appointed 11. oclock. a. m. next day, to hear the case. - - -

Went out at 7. 30. a. m. - Came in at 8. p. m. Miles 60. -

My fare $2.25. dined 50c. S&B. $3. tea and bed 50c. $6.25

Thursday. 3. June 1880.—

At Niagara. Billy Stumphray. fined $1. and $1. Costs, which Mr Henry Shoppard paid for him; the case was not brought in the interest of the fisheries, but thro' spite and malice; by Jack Bolton. Dick Sherlock, and Wilson - fish peddlers, Patterson, and others;

Jack Bolton, having laid complaint against Thomas Elliot, and Crew, for going out to Seine haul on Monday morning the 10th May last, brought the case before Wm Kerby Esqre J. P. who had Mr Elliot, before him, to answer said complaint, and also, that they fished a 3" inch mesh, and caught 18. White fish, with it; Jack Bolton, gave his brother Charles, and young Bob Patterson as the witnesses to prove the cases; they failed in doing so, while John A. Alford, swore positively they did not go out, until after the Bell had commenced to ring. The case was dismissed. - - -

Board $1. for Boat $1. — Miles 3. —

Friday. 4. June 1880. —

Hand Peter Heath, of Pr Walhousie, before J W. Keating Esqre J. P. St Catherines, for having Bass in his possession on the 24th May 1880, in St Catherine's Market, in contravention of the fishing act. - - He admitted the offence, and was fined $2; and Costs. —

J. B. Smith, Esqr in Welcher, and Wm Gregory of South, for fishing for, and Catching Bass, in Contravention of the fishing act, on 3rd of May last, in the 20. Mile Creek. — Evidence was given, by Wm Gregory and Solomon Wismer, when the Names of Sam Wells, and Mike Elliot, were proven to be the persons employed by J. B. Smith to go in to the water and go round with the small Seine, by which the Bass,

were caught, - the defendants had a lawyer, to defend them; -
The case was adjourned at my instance; until Monday the 14th day of June at 11. A. m. in the same place. - - Thence home to Hamilton, went out at 4.30. A. m. came in at 6.30. p. m. Miles 50. Bill B. 2.00. Breakfast 25¢, dinner 40¢, extras 50¢.

postage stamps 50¢.
Blank Book, 50¢

My dear Sir,

I send you by Mail today, seperate charges and Complaints made by me against Eric Wills, and Mike Elliot, for fishing a Seine Net, &c, &c. -

And also complaint against Elgin Drisher, for having Bass, in his possession on the 3rd of May last; proven to by Wm Gregory, and admitted by Drisher himself in his evidence. - -

My reason for doing so, against Drisher is in order to set aside any point raised by the Lawyer, as regards the part Drisher may have taken in the fishing. - -

I understood that Drisher, Wills, and Elliot, will prove the Seine belonged to J. B. Smith, and that he employed Wills and Elliot, to fish it for him, and they caught the Bass and other fish. - - -

Please read Sub section 4. of Section 17, of the fisheries Act. - And the Order in Council for fishing without a license. - And Section 13. for fishing within the Licensed limits of Albert Frobb, in 20, Mile pond and Creek. -

I will write Frobb, and have him present with his license on the 14th instant. - -

If you will be so good as to drop me a line giving me the name of the gentleman (Solicitor) who pleaded for Smith, I shall write him.

Yrs respectfully
John W. Lowe,
F. O.

J. W. Keating Esqre
J. P. &c. &c.
St Catharines.

7. June 1889.

5, June 1880.

Wrote - Robert J. Allan, James Cantwell, and Thomas Elliot, Niagara. -

Sent on the same day:-

Licenses to, James Cantwell, (2,) "Boat Licenses." -
" " Robert J. Allan.
" " Joe Masters, and John Keith. -
" " Albert, and Charles Ball. -
" " John Bolton, all of Niagara. --
" " Messrs Albert and Charles Ball. -
Fishermen, Niagara. -

5, June 1880. -

Charles L. Bingham,
Fishery Overseer. -
Rowan Mills, -

Please meet me at Port Dover, on Monday next when Morning Train from here arrives there,

John W. Kerr,
F. Overseer.

Telegraph, 75 ct.

Sir,

7, June 1880,

I have the honor, to apply and I recommend that you will be pleased to grant a License to Mr John Wadsworth, of Queenston; "for to fish a Machine in Lot No: 17, in the Niagara River, during this current season, at the rate of Five dollars. -

The Honble
The Minister,
&, &, &.

I Have, &c,
John W. Kerr
F. O.

Sir,

7. June 1880.

I have the Honor to report that on friday last, at St Catherines, before James W. Keating Esqre J.P. I charged Peter Hall, of Port Dalhousie, fisherman, with having Bass in his possession in the Market of the City of St Catherines during close season, to wit; on the 24th day of April last; He pleaded guilty, and was fined $2, and Costs. —

The Honble I Have, &c.

The Minister, &c. John W. Kerr P.O.

Sir,

7. June 1880. —

I have the Honor to report, that on thursday last, at the Town of Niagara, I charged Wm Humphrey, of Queenston, a Fish Pedlar, with having a few pickerel in his possession, on the 7th of May last, in Contravention of the Fisheries Act. — —

It being close season for pickerel, and the offence happening by mistake, as I believe, he was fined one dollar, and one dollar Costs; which was paid; Mr Wm Kerby, J.P., of Niagara, was the Convicting Magistrate. —

The Honble I Have, &c.

The Minister, &c. &c. John W. Kerr P.O.

Sir,

7. June 1880. —

I have the Honor to apply to you, for a License for Mr Peter Flynne, of Clifton; for to fish a Machine in the Niagara River at Clifton, say: within 100, yards of the Railway Suspension Bridge; I recommend the same. —

The rate to be $5, for the current season; and the same is situated in the Town of Clifton. —

The Honble I Have, &c.

The Minister, John W. Kerr

&c. &c. &c. P.O.

My dear Abraham, Hamilton, Ont.

I had Mr J. B. Smith of Jordan up before J. W. Keating Esqre J. P., of St Catherines, on Friday last, for fishing a Seine Net, in the 20, Mile Creek, and Catching Bass, on the 3rd of May, "Close season for Bass."—

I may still have to charge him, with fishing a Seine Net, within your licensed limits, if so, you will have to attend, with your License, before Squire Keating, on Monday next, the 14th of June, at St Catherines, say 11, o'clock, am, My kind respects, &c.

Yours &c.

Abm H. Robb Esqre, Beamsville, Ont.

John Walker J.P.
7. June 1880.

Monday 7. June 1880.

At Port Dover, and Turkey point, making enquiries into certain charges and Complaints made by Wm Snook, Duncan Jackson, Elisha H. Howell and Richard Clarke against Charles L. Bingham fishery Overseer, County of Norfolk, back again to Port Dover, saw Mr Ed. Moore found Net fisherman, See my report dated 9th of June 1880, To The Honble The Minister &c. &c, Miles 68. Ry fare 2.75, H and Buggy 2.50, Breakfast dinner Tea and bed $1.00.

Foolscap paper 20¢
Memorandum Book ~~50~~ c

Sunday, 13. June 1880.—

On B. Bch. per Order — went out at 9. a. m. came in at 1.30. p. m. Miles 26. C. Kerr with me. H & B. 1.50.

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of 6th instant, enclosing me $4, for a license to fish Machines on lots No: 2, and 14, in the Niagara River, for current year. — As I have already written you on the 5, May last, I cannot recommend a License to be granted for No: 2, lower station, this year. — But I have already applied for your License for Lots No: 14, which I will send you in a few days, and with my warm regards,

Yrs Sincerely,

John W Kerr, P.O.
Hamilton, Ontario.

Mr John Wadsworth,
Queenston.

7. June 1880.

P.S. Obey the Law, No fishing after 6 o'clk, on Saturday night, nor before 6 o'clock a.m. on Monday morning. JWKerr P.O.

Tuesday, 8th of June 1880. —
At Port Dover and Hamilton. Breakfast 75¢ & Bus $1.50. Breakfast 25¢. Miles 41. —
See my report, dated 9. June 1880.

Monday, 14, June 1880.
At St Catharines, meet before James Keating Esqr. J.P., Elgin Discher of South, was fined $1. and Costs, for having Bass in his possession, on the 3rd May last. J.B. Snye, an adjourned Case, was dismissed. — The Case against Alex Wills, and Elias Elliott, could not be proceeded on. They having been fined Esquire Snye of Jordan, on the 7th instant. — Had information laid agst them by Ab: H. Robb, for fishing within his License limits, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 7. p.m. Miles 70. By Fare $2.00 dinner 80¢. Buss 15. 144 B. 1.50. —

Hamilton, Ont.

My dear Sir — As promised, I write you to say; I will be down, "God willing", by first Train, on Monday next. —

I have written, and Complained to J. W. Keating Esqre J.P., St Catharines, against Dike Elliot, and Fred Wills, for Seine Net fishing, without a License, &c. — And I have made a fresh Complaint against Elgin Fisher, for having Bass in his possession, &c.

I have not yet made any additional complaint against Mr J. B. Sunn, — As promised, I send you those particulars, and believe me,

Yours respectfully,
Donald Kerr
P.O.
10. June 1880.

Wm H. McElvie Esqre
Barrister at Law,
St Catharines.

14. June 1880. —

When in St Catharines - to day, Peter Hath, fisherman at Pt Dalhousie, was complained of, by James Hawkins, Fish dealer, for having Bass and pickerel in his possession at St Catharines, during the Close season: to wit, on the 17th 22nd and 24th April last, and did sell the same to James Hawkins. - for which he was paid.

and

On May 1st and 8th, Hawkins, also bought Bass, from Peter Hath - all in his store at St Catharines, and for which he was paid. —

Thursday. 16, June 1880. —

At Winona, to see Paddy Hand, found all night he caught 45 fish, that morning, went out at 4, a.m. came in at 10. a.m. Miles 30. 14 & B. 2.00. breakfast 25¢.

Warned him not to catch small White fish, at his peril. —

Sir,

12. June 1880. —

I have the honor to send you, Bank draft, No: 124, for the sum of Twenty Six dollars. — —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as Licence fees. for this current season as follows;

1. Dan: McGuire, Fisherman, B. Beach; "For licence to fish a White fish Seine, on fishing Station No: 11. in Lake Ontario on B. Beach, already received and delivered". — $ 10.00.

2. Alex: Rollo, Fisherman, Burlington Beach; "For licence to fish a White fish Seine, on fishing Station No: 8, in Lake Ontario on B. Beach, already received and delivered", 10.00,

3. John Wadsworth, Fisherman, Queenston, "For a licence to fish a Machine on Lot No: 17, in the Niagara River already applied for, but not yet received. — 6.00,

Total $ 26.00 cts.

Hon: Minister
H. H. H.

I Have the,
Honor Ker
Sir,

Thursday, 17. June 1880. — and Friday 18. June, 1880. —

At Jordan, got Richard Gilbert, to go with me in his Boat, to Port Dalhousie, to Catch Peter Nath, reported to me, for Catching Small White fish in a Herring gill net, went out at 3. p. m. came in at 5. p. m. on Friday. —

On Friday off to St. Catharines, Dick Gilbert returned in his Boat to Jordan; arranged Peter Nath, before J. W. Keating Esqre. J. P. for having Bass and Pickerel in their possn. Jas: Hawkins included. —

Hawkins was let free, because he Complained of Peter Nath, who pleaded guilty to the charge, he was fined $ 5. and Costs, — in all 8.00 cts, heard of other persons, got their Names, for Selling Small white fish in St. Catharines Market, got from Jos. Coulton of Niagara, —

Sir,

19. June 1880.

I have the Honor to send you herewith, Bank draft No: 143. for the sum of Twenty four dollars. - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, for this current year as follows; Viz:

1. Henry Sheppard, Queenston. On account of a Seine Hauling ground in the Niagara River, already received and delivered. - (L. Jos. is 10.) $8.00.

2. Joseph Gabriel Sr. Queenston, on account of a license to fish a Machine on Lot No: 1. in Niagara River, at Queenston, received and del.d. 3.00.

3. Joseph Gabriel Jr. Queenston, For a license to Spear Sturgon, in lots 18. and 19. in the Niagara River at Queenston, rec.d and del.d. - - 3.00.

4. David Fitch, B. Beach; For a Seine Hauling license on Lot No: 7. in Lake Ontario, received, and delivered. - 10.00

Total. $24.00

Hon: Minister,
H. H. H.

I Have &c,
John McKee
D.C.

Mr Kee,

Ottawa. 16. June 1880.

Please get me duplicate Copies of these 12.) draft Certificates, 110, and 80.

Registering Clerk, appears to have mislaid them somehow or another, and I want them to go in before 30. June. - Return enclosure. Yrs S. P. B -

Mr Bauset, There was only one draft No: 64. for the sum of One Hundred and Ninety dollars; - and which is included in my two letters of 22. May 1880. I now send you duplicates for the same. - and believe me. Yrs H. J. McKee
D.C.

19. June 1880.

Sir.

9. June 1880.

I have the honor to state that on Monday last, the 7th instant, I visited Turkey point fisheries, accompanied by Mr Charles L. Bingham, the Local Owner, for Norfolk; and in obedience to your instructions, to me dated 26th May last; I beg most respectfully to report; - That a good deal of ill feeling pervaded the minds of those fishermen, when they made the complaints against Mr Bingham, &c, in January, and February last, but upon personal enquiries made by me; I find Messrs Wm Snook, Elisha H. Howell, and Miss Lucy Jackson, "for her brother Duncan Jackson", expressed regret for having made frivolous charges at all against Mr C. L. Bingham; which; on being called upon to prove, they could not substantiate now. - In fact they positively stated to me when all the different charges were (made) read over to each person individually by me, that they could not do so; I also find that a bitter feeling exists amongst the fishermen of Turkey point, against the Pound Net fishermen of Port Dover, but upon my discussing this matter reasonably with them, in a cool, calm way, the T. point fishermen at once cooled down, taking different views, agreeing with mine, about Pound Net fishing. -

Another palpable result arrived at by them, (the fishermen) Mr Bingham, and myself is, that the Seine hauling grounds in the Outer Bay, at Turkey point, should be placed at Ten dollars, per year; Commencing this year; And the fishing grounds, in the Inner Bay, Turkey point, "Spring fishing grounds", should remain at $5, each, per year; And that you will be pleased to order, the ranges between each Seine hauling ground in the Outer Bay to be re arranged, and finally established, as changes were made, as is supposed by Bill Helmer, on the beach; by removing posts, which do not now tally, with the Map, made by Mr Walshe, P.L. Surveyor. -

Mr Bingham, himself assisted by the fishermen can do this, to the satisfaction of all Seine hauling fishermen concerned, and his decision should be final. - Buoys placed and anchored outside in the Bay, on the Line, between

each fishing ground, occupied; and so put a stop (final) to all unpleasantness, and trespassing, amongst the fishermen in future; Because as I found out; fishermen while Seine hauling, in running out their Seines, they invariably, run over their Seines on to each others fishing grounds, "outside in the bay;" causing ill will, and bad feelings to spring up; which I explained to them, before Mr. C. L. Bingham, must be instantly put a stop to.- And that they must henceforth, live in peace and harmony. - - -

"Then I may as well repeat to you here, what I am aware Mr. Bingham, has already officially reported to you; the fishermen on Turkey point, at present are Comparatively poor. - - Duncan, and Frank Jackson, one a young lad, about 20 years old; The other Frank, who is a year older, is married, and away from there, at present, is fishing, as Fireman, with the pound Net owners at Pt. Dover, where I found him; I did not see Duncan Jackson; but they are unable to pay the back rents for 1878, $25, and for 1879, $20. Total $45.--

I would respectfully recommend to you, under the existing circumstances of their case; that you will be pleased to cancel the Licenses for 1878, and 1879, now returned by me to you; and exonerate them, from all future payment of the amount $45; And I would respectfully recommend, that you will be pleased to give Miss Lucy Jackson, who is at present, the oldest living member of the late John Jackson's family, "a free License of fishing ground, No: 2, as named in the License I herewith return; for this current season:- And thereby enable her, to get up a New Seine, and be in a fishing position for the future, "and able to pay next season".- Because she has to provide for, and support three young persons, nieces, and a nephew, to do this will meet the approval of every human person in the locality.- I was credibly told by two

respectable persons, that Lucy Jackson, who now owns the Homestead, used every means, for to raise money on Loan, to pay up the back years (2) license rents of $45, but she failed to do so....

The late John Jackson, the father of the Jackson family, at Turkey point, fought for Great Britain, at the Battles of Lundys Lane, Stoney Creek, and Queenston Heights, and when living paid up his fishing license fees... There is so much more fish caught now, than formerly, by pound nets, set in Lake Erie, near Port Dover, in the County of Norfolk, that the prices of fish at Turkey point, have come down, and the fish are depreciated in value.—

I saw Mrs Stephen Ferris's (Sons.) who are now grown up young men, hauling, when I got there, they caught 5, Tubs full of fish, which they sold at $1, per tub, say; about 80 fish, in each Tub full; Charley Ferris, the Eldest young man; said it was the best haul he had made for a long time.—Mrs Ferry's pays less annually than the other fishermen pay for their grounds; Lot, No: 1, is perhaps the best on T. point, being also situated in front of her House, where she resides, She has 3 boys, the youngest is 18 years old, who all fish, She employs one person extra and her Crew is Complete; She has nothing to Complain of....

No: 2, fishing Station, is occupied by Lucy Jackson, who lives in front of the fishing Station ground....

No: 3. J. Station, is occupied by Wm Helmer, who also lives in front of the Seine hauling ground.—

No: 4. fishing Station, is occupied by Wm Snook, I found him there, when I got up to the place; with his crew, mending his Seine... His residence is about a Mile away from the fishing ground:—But then! there is not, and this is nothing whatever to Complain of, on this act and so Snook admitted to me, as his Stations in the Inner Bay, being so much farther away... The other fishing lots, Nos 5. 6. 7. and 8.—on the Outer Bay, are not at present occupied

by any fisherman. - -

In the Inner Bay. -

Lot No: 5, fishing Station, as you will please perceive, and understand, by reference to the Walshes plan, is occupied by the Jacksons, who can seining their Seine out to the west around "Point de grass", thereby gaining more than 16. chains frontage, which the lot, only represents on the plan. - - -

Nos: 6 and 7, is occupied by Wm Snook, and No: 8. and 9. - is occupied by Mrs Aepha Ferris, and her 3 boys. - -

There is no No: 10 lot. For lots No: 9. and 10. is all swallowed up in No: 9, per Elisha H. Stowell, whose own fault it was, to be without a Seine hauling ground, last spring, his choice of Nos 5.6.7 & 8. - Can not have a fishing ground, in the outer Bay, For he did not fish this year, this far!!! and entered into the Conspiracy blind-folded; and which is as near to his residence as Bob Woods point; where lot No: 10. Inner Bay, was misrepresented to be; And so per Co. St. Stowell's pretended complaint, are all amicable ended. - -

Now as regards the charges made against the Pound Nets, fisherman, by Richard blake, near Pt dover, in Lake Erie, whom I saw, where he is working, with a farmer, near Vittoria, and where I read over to him his charges, and Conversed with him for 1/2, an hour, "For violating the Sunday clause, of the fisheries Act", - Fr. Fr. fishing during close season. - - -

Blake told me, he would like to have the owners of, of pound Nets, he complained of. fined, for not conforming with the law on Sunday the 16th of November last. - -

I question blakes veracity, and knowledge of Pound Nets, and I fear that his evidence when heard before a fair and impartial Magistrate, would not be suff- to Convict.

The impression is, amongst the Seine hauling fishermen, on Turkey point, that when the Tunnel of each pound net, is down, from 6. o'clock p. m. on Saturday

night, until 6. o'clock, A. m. the following Monday morning, the Seine hauling fishermen, then catch nine fish when they had each Monday. But they forgot that their own Seine hauling ground was resting during all this time, besides it is only an imagination on their part, for pound nets set 7. and 8. miles away from the T. point Seine hauling grounds, cannot, and do not affect that Seine hauling grounds, ⊥ ⊥.

Mr Bingham, has no recollection whatever of Richard Clarke complaining to him, of the pound Net fishermen on the occasion referred to; Mr Bingham, has frequently himself, however, visited the pounds during Sabbath close season, and during spawning season. - -

And with regard to the charge against Mr Charles L. Bingham of being drunk, this complaint must fall to the ground, as Clarke, could not prove it, does not say when it happened; and he only heard it; and it was put in his mouth, and he was told to put it in the report by Doctor W. J. MacDonnis, and he did it at the Doctors request, of Vittoria, and who it appears for some reason, and as it does appears, wrote all the letters of complaint vig to for 11 men Snark, Richard Clarke, Duncan Jackson, "when the others first put Whiskey in Seine"; and Elisha H. Howell; who all invariably at the time that by combining together so many of them, and all nearly on the same story, they could have Mr Bingham removed; so in fact Richard Clarke himself informed me: I leave all those matters with you to determine. —

Mr Bingham, being at the time he was appointed a gt, and voting for John Stuart, when he first ran for Norfolk, and was returned, and when these very fishermen, now clamouring, voted for Mr Stuart also. — But when Mr John Stuart, was unseated for "Bribery and Corruption", and ran again, neither Bingham, nor the fishermen voted for Mr John Stuart, the second time, and so Mr Stuart, was defeated, and a better man was elected. — I simply allude to this now for to show

⊥ at T. point, having a 10. miles, Broad frontage, 7 miles away from the P. Sets, with no obstruction, open always for fish to approach the shore of their Seine hauling grounds. ⊥.

you how unreasonable, even fishermen, will sometimes; forgetting themselves, try and endeavour to appear, when having a learned gll; ft. for their Amanuensis; and who has drawn up for them, reports in Homœpathic style. - - -

Now I believe Mr Bingham is a good officer, and an intelligent man, and with more experience will become still more active and efficient. - -

I never met him until on this occasion (7th inst.) when I had the opportunity of hearing him very highly spoken of, by some of the most respectable conservatives and reformers resident in the south Riding of Norfolk. —

But to enable him to do his duty more actively and more efficiently, I would most respectfully recommend, that the department will be pleased to supply him with a good Boat, say to the Value of £50, which he requires very badly for active operations both at Turkey point and Big March Long point; and when inspecting the Pound Nets; I hope you will at once approve of this. —

Such a length of time has elapsed from the dates when offences were said to be committed; to the more recent dates, when complained of; that I cannot, feel disposed, nor find myself, now at this late day, in a position to recommend any further proceedings being taken in the premises, — beyond what I have herein recommended and submitted for your consideration, approval, and adoption. - -

The reduction of Licence fees, placing them, at 10£, per year, what they were when the late John A. Backhouse was appointed L. Nurses, 1843, will I hope give general satisfaction to all concerned, and I explained to the

Bingham, that if this arrangement was approved of, and sanctioned by you; it was sure to be succeeded by a good and satisfactory results, both to him, as well as to those fishermen, who are more immediately concerned. —

I, of course, speak out my own mind, as the matters appeared to me, and were presented to me during the enquiry, and at the same time, I might add, I will be satisfied, if the Hon'ble The Minister, and the department, should think of some better way, than mine of ending these disputed matters, which exist as complaints, to some extent only in imagination. — —

In conclusion, I have to warmly thank Mr S. P. Bennet, for the opportunity he has given me on this occasion of again visiting Y. Point; And I sincerely trust my plain and truthful report of facts, will meet the approval of the department, and which I strongly recommend for adoption in all its parts, as embraced and set out in this report.

And with profound respect,

I have &c, &c,

John Wiker,
J. P.

The Honble
The Minister,
&c, &c, &c.

P. S. — On receipt of your instructions, I wrote Mr C. L. Bingham, as per copy of answer letter herewith, and when the Train from here arrived at Port Dover, at 8.30. a. m, he was there at the Hotel to meet me, when I took a Horse and buggy, and we drove direct to Y. Point &c, &c, where I made the enquiries, &c, &c, &c.

Yours respectfully
J. W. Wiker
J. P.

See Cont^d at page 144 and 145,

Sir,

14: June 1880.

I have the Honor to receive the Copy of a letter dated Hamilton, Ont^o. 21st. May 1880, from the City Clerk, Thomas Beasley, in behalf of the City Council of Hamilton; addressed to, The Honble The Minister, &c. &c. &c. with a request; "That the Fishery Reserve on B. Beach in B. bay, in front of the Ocean House, be not leased or licensed"- With your Order to me to report upon it. - In obedience to this, I beg most respectfully to report that three licenses, were issued this year; Viz^t.; to Alexander Rollo, St. L. Bastien, and Wm. Malsie, for fishing purposes in B. bay, in front of the Ocean House, or more properly speaking in front of the High Road, on B. beach, that runs north and South, and in front of the Ocean House. - -

I dont think the City Council have any Cause of Complaint whatever in this Case. - - It is true they have planted trees, laid down a plank walk for the accommodation and pleasure of the public, as they say; but for a distance of about 300, yards; the trees are planted and the plank walk is laid down on this Fishery Reserve, that they now try, to induce you to prevent fishermen, from Occupying under licenses, as if they held some legal right or title to the premises themselves, which they do not. - I refer you to their Lease of B. Beach, from the Local Government of Ontario, at Toronto: - - - Altho' they have tried to get a Lease or License of the same from the Fisheries department, Ottawa. - -

On the 8th. of May last, I was on B. beach, laying off, two fishing grounds of 221' feet each; for the St. L. Bastien, and Wm. Malsie, of the City of Hamilton, as approved of, by you, and for which they had previously paid, $5, each, and I had staked them off, when the Mayor O'Reilly, a number of Aldermen, and Frank

Mr. McKelcan Esqre B.L., and City Solicitor, came along, asked me, what I was doing, talked about Boat Houses, the Ocean House Stables, Shed, and a privy, which are on the Fishery Reserve of B. bay, as you are already aware, in front of the Ocean House.- Mr O'Reilly said, if boat Houses were so constructed, low, that people could look over them in to the Bay, it would add, to the appearance of the place.-

There is only one Boat House in front of the Ocean House owned by Mr. S. S. Brown; And the Boats hired from there, afford more accommodation and pleasure to the public in fishing and boating; than the trees, and the plank walk do, by a long chalk; And no Boats are hired out on Sundays.-

Now as regards the Ocean House stables, and privy; Condemned by us on the above Occasion, I recommend to your Honor that I may have your Sanction, to Notify The Stood Bros proprietors of the Ocean House; to remove them at once, off the Fishery Reserve.- They have plenty of land, of their own; where they can be removed to, besides the late, H. F. Bixley, so soon, as he got hold of the Land from Board of Works, Ottawa, on which the Ocean House is built, he refused point blank, for to take out any more fishing licenses.

Mr Wm Mafsie, has not yet put up any Boat House, but he is welcome to do so, whenever it suits his own convenience, the same has already met your approbation.-

I am sometimes astonished, at applications made, which if granted by you, without reference to me, would be so detrimental, and destructive to the fishermen, and the public interests of our fishing Communities.-

I cannot recommend or report anything contrary to your already annual established licenses granted by you in this Case.- And with due respect,

Hon: The Minister of Marine & Fisheries

I Have the

J. [illegible]

F.O.

My dear Sir,

J. W. Keating Esqre. J. P., has issued Summonses against Ariel Wills and Elias Elliott, for fishing a Seine Net, within your licensed limits, fishing in 20 Mile Creek; The trial will come off before him at St. Catherines, next Wednesday, at 11. o'clock, a. m, the 23rd of June. - Please attend,

And oblige, Yrs. &c.

John W. Kerr

J.P.,

Abm. M. Crobb Esqre.
Beamsville,

19. June 1880.

Contd

Railway fare $1.60¢ tea and bed 50¢, Boat $2.-
Breakfast and dinner on 18th instant, for two 90¢.
Buss 15¢, 844 B. 1.45, Sundries 50, Miles 86.---
Got out Summonses for Ariel Wills and Elias Elliott for fishing within the licensed limits of Ab: M. Crobb, in the 20 Mile marsh, on the 3rd of May last, and Catching Bass, it being also close season for Bass.

19. June 1880.

Mr David Fitch, paid me $10. for his Seine license for current season. -

paid Acres $10.50¢, I owed him. -

Gave Mrs Kerr $35.00¢,
" Fussey $1. $14. for Sheepskin, 8
" Lud. " 1. Gabriel 3, and Gabriel
" Eucleine " 1. Son $3. - a $ for
Salmon and $2. for
White fish. -

J W Kerr
J.P.

Sir,

21. June 1880.

I have the honor to report, that on the 3rd of May last, Ariel Wills, and Elias Elliot, of the Township of Louth, did fish for, and Catch Bass, on the 3rd of May last, in the Jordan Ck and Pond, without having a license from the department of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa. —

I had those persons summoused up before James W. Keating Esqre J.P. of St Catharines for Committing said offence; but in the mean time on the 7th instant, they were charged for the same offence; before Clarke Snure Esqre J.P. who fined them, One dollar, and Costs (each) which they paid. —

This was a bit of smart practice, got up by J. B. Snure, a County Constable, a brother of the Magistrate, whom I failed to Convict, altho' he instigated all the illegal fishing connected with these Cases; being the owner of the Seine, that all the illegal fishing was Carried on with. — —

I may report however, that Ariel Wills, and Elias Elliot, are summoused up again, for Wednesday next, before James W. Keating Esqre J.P. "for fishing within the licensed limits of Abm. H. Grobb, situated in the 20 Mile Creek, township of Louth, on the 3rd of May last, without his permission. —

Hon: Minister,

I Have, &c,

John W Kerr F.O.

Sir,

21. June 1880.

I have the Honor to report that on Monday the 14th instant, at St Catharines; before James W. Keating Esqre J.P., - I charged Elgin Fisher, of Louth; with having in his possession Speckled Bass, at the Village of Jordan, on the 3rd day of May last, it being close season for Bass, and in Contravention of the Fisheries Act. -

He was fined, $1. and Costs, which he paid. -

Hon: Minister,

I Have &c,

John W Kerr

F.O.

21. June 1880.

My dear Sir,

I find you have not sent me, yet, your license Money for 1879 - $5 dollars. -

Nor your license Money for this Current year, $5. dollars. - -

Will you be pleased to let me have ten dollars, on receipt, at once, and oblige

Yours Truly,

John W Kerr

F.O.

Mr Francis Pattons,
Fisherman,
Gates Gulley, Scarboro, P.O.

P.S. Mailed Licence for 1880, $5.

JW Kerr F.O

Telegraphed, 1.50 P.M.

Sir,

21. June 1880,

I have the Honor to report, that on Friday last, the 18th instant, I by a Warrant W. Keating Esqre J.P., at the City of St Catherines; "I charged Peter Nath, a fisherman, of Port Dalhousie" - "With having in his possession, in the City of St Catharines, a quantity of Bass, and pickerel, on the 17, 22, and 24th of April last; And on the 1st and 8th day of May last, "It being close season for those fish"; - And that he did then, and there; sell the same to one James Hawkins, a Fish dealer. - -

"I received private information of this matter, on the 14th instant, when at St Catharines attending to, and prosecuting other cases of Contraventions of the Fishery Act."

Peter Nath, pleaded guilty, and also pleaded poverty!! and was fined $5, and $3.60 of Costs, - and got a month within which to pay the same. - -

James Hawkins, was in attendance to give evidence against Nath; Hawkins was not prosecuted or proceeded against. - The Magistrate cautioned Nath, to be more careful in future, for if brought up again, he would impose a full penalty of $20, and Costs, and Confiscate his Nets and Boat. -

And I told Nath, I would recommend to you, that his license be cancelled,

Hon: Minister, I Have &c.,

&c, &c, &c. John W Kerr J.P.,

P.S.

On Thursday night last, and up to 7, a.m. on Friday morning, I lay in Ambush, Concealed, for Peter Nath, but altho' he jaled up, he had only one small white fish, illegally or accidentally Caught.

J W Kerr J.P.

Sir.

22. June 1880,

I have the honor to send you Bank draft, No: 151. for the sum of Ten dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, as follows; for this current season. - -

1. Mrs Charlotte and Francis Reid, Port Credit, on account of a Seine hauling license, already received, and delivered. $ ¢ 5.00.

2. Wm Stone. Toronto, For fee, Not license already received and delivered for to fish in Ashbridges Bay. - 5.00.

Total $ 10.00 ¢

Hon: Minister, I Have, &c.

H. H. H.

John W Kerr
J.O.

Monday. 21. June 1880. -

1. At Clarkson's Corners, thence to Port Credit, Mrs Charlotte Reid, paid me $ 5, on a/c. Thence to Toronto and Toronto Island, saw Pat Gray and Wm Ward. Seine hauling for White fish, the seining is good, went out at 5.30, p. m. Miles 50. My fare $ 2, breakfast 25¢, dinner. 25¢. tea and bed 50 ¢, Jersey 10¢. -

Tuesday 22, June 1880. -

1. At Toronto Island, City of Toronto, and Hamilton, got $ 3. from Wm Stone, went out at 5, a. m, came in at 11.50, a. m, Miles 48, Breakfast 40 ¢.

Postage stamps 50¢ $
Note paper. - 25 ¢ $

Sir,

26. June 1880,

I have the honor to send you Bank draft No: 164, for forty dollars. - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, for this current season; as follows:

1. Ben: Folds. - Fisherman. - "For license to Seine haul on fishing station No: 12, in Lake Ontario, on B. beach, now sent on account; received and delivered. - - $ c. 5.00.

2. Thos: Joyce. do. - "For license to fish a Seine on fishing Station No: 5, in Lake Ontario, on B. Beach now sent on account; not yet received. - $ c. 5.00,

3. Mortimer Corey, do. - "For license to Seine haul on Station No: 2, in Lake Ontario, on B. Beach, now sent in full, received and delivered. - $ c. 10.00.-

4, James Cantwell, Fisherman, Niagara, "For a Boat license to fish in Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Niagara, received, and delivered. - $ c. 5.00,

5, John Bolton, Fisherman, do. do. do, 5.00,

6. A. & C. Ball, do. do. do. do. do. 5.00.

7. Messrs R. Reid and R. Taylor, do, do. do. 5.00.

Total $ 40.00

Hon: Minister,
H. H. H.

I Have, &c,
John W Kerr
J.P.

Wednesday, 23. June 1880. -

At St. Catherines, and Niagara. - at St. Catharines, before James W. Keating Esqre J. P. -

Ariel Wills, and Elias Elliott, of the Township of Louth, were fined $2, each, and Costs - "For fishing within the Licensed limits of Ab^m St. Grobb, in the 20, Mile pond and Creek, township of Louth. - Miles 48.

By fare $ c. 2.00. Stores and luggage $ c. 2.00. dinner 40 c, tea 25 c. bed 25 c, ...

Sir,

26. June 1880.-

I have the Honor to report for your information that on Wednesday last, the 23rd instant, before James W. Keating Esqre J.P., at St Catherines, Trial Wills, and Elias Elliot, of the Township of South, were fined $2. and Costs, each; "For fishing a small Seine, within the licensed limits of Abraham St. Grobb, situated in the 20, Mile pond, and Creek, I attended the Trial and gave evidence.-

Grobb, Complained; Offence Committed on 3rd of May last.-

I Have &c.

Hon: Minister, John W Kerr

&, &, &, J.O.,

P.S. please send me a couple packages of large envelopes. J. W. Kerr,

J.O.

Thursday. 24. June 1880.-

At Niagara, up as far, as 4 Mile pond, did not see anything wrong.- Up again with Big Jim, and Dick Gilbert, to lay off Seine rawling grounds.- went out at 3. a. m, came in at 1. p. m, Miles 10, Boat 1.- Breakfast, dinner, tea, and bed. $1.-

Friday. 25, June 1880.-

At 4, and 6, Mile pond Creeks - Seined an Eel line set in front of Dr Stephenson Place in Lake Ontario, Bob Reid with me, gave him a $1.50.- went out at 3. a. m, came in at 6. Miles 14. Boat 50¢. 2.00

Home to Hamilton - Miles 48. Breakfast 25¢, dinner 40¢, Stage fare $1.- Buss 30¢.-

Sir.

28. June 1880.

I have the honor to submit for your consideration herewith, an application from Mr. James Cantwell, an old licensed fisherman at Niagara; "For permission to fish One pound Net, single pot, 600, yards lead, in Lake Ontario, between the One Mile pond, and Stoney point, Lake frontage about One Mile" in the Town, and Town=ship of Niagara; within which distance there is no White fish, Seine fishing being now carried on, in consequence of the bot=tom of the Lake, being covered with stone, and large holders, for some distance out from the shore; when the bottom of the Lake assumes a smooth sandy surface, in depth say about 24 ft as it approaches nearer to the current of the Niagara River, which current, and eddies, as you must be aware, continues for some miles out in Lake Ontario, after the rush of water from the River, into Lake Ontario" . - -

There may be two objections raised, to the granting of a pound net license, within the limits applied for, and which I have no desire or wish to conceal from you. - - The first is, it may interfere with, and might kill off, the Seine hauling fishermen's profits, on each side of the described limits. - But this will be a small matter to complain of, as compared to the good re=sults, in a profitable point of view, that is, or will be sure to accrue therefrom, by the catching abundance of fish, for pub=lic supply, in the early part of each year, before Seine hauling commences; and late in fall, when no Seine fishing what=ever, is ever carried on by either Messrs Allan, Ball, Bolton, or Cantwell or himself, the present applicant . - -

And only in Niagara River, by Messrs Thomas Elliot, & boy, during spring and fall each year . - -

Hence there can be no objection, whatever raised, even by interested or apparently so, fishermen for Mr James Cantwell - to fish a pound net, during each fall, or when Seine fishing is not pursued by any or either of the above named licensed fishermen on the Lake

Seine hauling Stations. - -

"The second objection, raised, might be, that Ice coming down the Niagara River, every Spring, may damage and injure this pound Net, if set out early, before the Ice run, from Lake Erie, is over. - - -

But on the whole, after I have given this matter my attention, and that consideration, which is due alike, to the fisherman, and the fishing interests, and the Community, I beg most respectfully to recommend that you will be pleased to grant the application made by Mr James Cantwell, and so give him ample and sufficient time to get up his rig, for the next fall fishing, for his enterprise in this matter, is worthy of your Consideration. - - -

"The price of License to be hereafter fixed, before he commences to fish. - -

Thousands of Sturgeon, abundance of pickerel, and other valuable fishes; "only a moiety of which are at present caught", would be then captured by the Government, and in greater abundance. - -

Please give this matter, your kind Consideration, and with due respect,

The Honble — I have &c.

The Minister, — John W Kerr, J.P.

N.B. If this pound Net, fishing is successful, other fishermen, will be sure to apply for similar licenses, at least 4. pounds might be fished with success within the limits at present occupied by a like number of Seines, and this would give employment to 3. men Continually to each pound, besides the owner while engaged fishing. -

I am now from personal experience kindly disposed to pound Net fishing, because it is a far better mode of Catching fish, than the Seines are! - and will be sure to develope the

Success or otherwise of the Fish Breeding of Salmon, —

J W Kerr F.O.

Wednesday, 30. June 1880.

At Port Credit and Clarksons Corners. Joined all night, went out at 6. a. m. came in at 6. p. m. Miles 70. My 2.00. Bt & Bs 1. B & dinner 50. Stand Night lines for Eels were being set in Mimico Creek. - - -

Quissions, Chas; Unwin - P.L.S. Toronto, Stanlous Survey, 8, for quarter Quissions, 24th May. - $50. To be entered in ending 30th " " 24. March, - $1.00, September Quarter. - September next. - 2. July 1880. —

Wrote Mr Thomas Elliot of Niagara, about young Sandelles - Hooks and lines. I saw him on Lake Ontario, in front of Doctor Stevenson - Niagara.

Sent Mr J. B. Plumb & Co. — for to Catch, White Bass. —

J W Kerr F.O.

A BEACH MATTER.

Interference with City Improvements—The Government Refuse a Request.

Some time ago the following letter, under instruction from the City Council, was forwarded to Ottawa:

To the Hon. the Minister of Fisheries:

SIR—The City Council having been informed that certain parties have made application to secure, for the purpose of erecting boat houses thereon, a large portion of the bay frontage of the Burlington Beach opposite the Ocean House, and running in front of the present sidewalk built by the city, I have been desired to state that the city has expended large sums of money in laying down sidewalks, planting trees, and otherwise beautifying this portion of the Beach, for the accommodation and pleasure of the public, and that if the privilege asked for by these parties be granted, the object which the city had in view will be frustrated for the advantage of a few persons only. The City Council beg leave to request that the application be not granted.

I have, etc.,
T. BEASLEY,
City Clerk.

Yesterday Mr. Beasley received the following reply, which is chiefly remarkable for the fact that it does not very clearly cover the point in question:

OTTAWA, 25th June, 1880.

SIR,—The complaint you make seems to be that some person is erecting a boat-house on the fishery reserve fronting the Ocean House, where already another boat house, a stable and "necessary" exist. As a rule these structures are not properly erected on a reserve for fishing purposes, made in the interest of fishermen, and they are not allowed to interfere with the public exercise of the fishing privilege under regular licenses. This Department does not always think it requisite to interfere with any improvements made for the general benefit of the public, provided they do not unfairly infringe on the business of fishermen.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,
W. F. WHITCHER.

For the Hon. Minister of Marine & Fisheries.

Sir, 5. July 1880.

I have the Honor to apply, for two packages of large official Envelopes. —

I Have, &c,
John W Kerr
F.O.

The Honble
The Minister

Ald. LEES, chairman, presented the report of the Parks Committee, from which the following extracts are taken: Your committee are informed that steps are being taken by private speculators to secure a large portion of the Bay fronting opposite the Ocean House and running along in front of the present 12-ft. walk laid by the city corporation, the intention being to erect boat-houses thereon, which will materially interfere with the view of the Bay and its surroundings, and thereby frustrate the object for which the city has laid out a large sum of money to improve. Your committee therefore recommend that the Minister of Fisheries be communicated with forthwith, petitioning him to prevent such obstruction being placed there; and, that a copy of the clause of this report be forwarded therewith. Your committee further recommend that trees similar to those already planted on the Bay side at the Beach be placed in front of the lots leased by the city corporation, commencing at the northerly end of said lots, and extending as far as Mr. Walker's house, numbering about seventy-five trees, and your committee ask authority to let the contract for planting the same. Your committee further recommend that a 4-ft. sidewalk be laid from the present sidewalk, along the street leading to the Lake shore, between lots Nos. 10 and 11. Your committee also recommend that the City Engineer be instructed to lay out and stake all the lots on the Beach leased by the city.

Ald. FOSTER, chairman, read the report of the Sewer Committee.

THE BEACH FISHERMEN.

Stormy Meeting at John Dynes'.

For some days past word was sent around amongst the fishermen of Burlington Beach to rally at Mr. John Dynes' hotel, and last evening a considerable number of them had assembled. Mr. Frederick N. Corey having been chiefly instrumental in calling the meeting, was asked by a brother fisherman what business was to be brought forward. Corey arose and made a speech, attacking the Inspector, Mr. J. W. Kerr, in the most savage manner, declaring that he should be dismissed from the position, as he (Corey) had plenty of charges to bring against him.

Another fisherman present said he had plenty of grievances, too, and that Fred. Corey had been the cause of most of them. At the time he (Corey) was in the employ of Mr. Kerr there was nothing too mean for him to be engaged in both as regards the persecution of his brother fishermen, and illegal fishing as well, and now that his services were not required any longer by Mr. Kerr, he turned Turk on one who not long ago he had pronounced the "best and only man in Canada." Mr. Corey would neither move nor second a resolution to have the grievances spoken of investigated. He said he would rather keep quiet and let some of the others do it.

The meeting was a pretty stormy one, and the instigator of the gathering seemed to have let loose a hornets' nest at his ears.

Sir,

3rd July 1880.-

I have the Honor to submit for your perusal, Consideration and approval, Account and diary of my actual disbursements for travel and petty expenses incurred by me, while employed on active duty, during the quarter ending 30th day of June 1880, amounting to, $118.13,

Add, To. J. W. Kerr, For postages &c, Voucher No: 1, " 2.35,
" " do, " Telegraphs, do, " 2.- " 3.03.
" " do, " Office Rent, do. " 3.- " 5.00,
" " do, " Stationery &c, do. " 4.- 2.30.
" " do, " Magistrates fees, &c, do, " 5.- " 11.55,
" " do, " do - do. - do. " 6.- " 8.80,

please find Memorandum of a/cts and Summonses attached thereto. —

" Chas: J. Kerr, " Services as Boatman, - do - " - " 7.- " 10.00,
" J. W. Kerr, " Legal Services, - " do, - " 8.- 2.00

Total, $ 163.16 c.

I beg most respectfully to report, that I travelled 2075, Miles, during the Quarter, while incurring expenses herein set forth. - It was necessary for me to do so, in every instance. —

And with due respect,

I have &c,

John W Kerr
J. P. Queens Co.

The Hon.ble
The Minister,
&c &c &c.

Sir,

5, July 1880.

I have the Honor to send you herewith, Bank draft, No: 198 for the sum of Eleven dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, for this current Season; as follows;

1, John Yaffe, Burlington Beach; Fisherman; For a Seine hauling licence to fish a legal white fish Seine, on Lot No: 9, in Lake Ontario on B. Beach, already received and delivered, - - $ 4. 10.00.

2, Joseph Book, Clinton, - For a boat License to fish 100, yards of Herring gill Net, in Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Clinton, - please send me licence, 1.00.

Total, $ 11.00 4.

Hon: Minister,
Y. Y. Y.

I Have, &c.
John W Kerr
F. O.

16, July 1880 -

Sent License for Jasper Book, to Ab H. Groth, addressed to P. office, Beamsville,

J W Kerr F. O.

My dear Mr Hand, My two friends, and families, are living on the Camp ground at Grimsby, at present, whom you supplied last year for me with fish. -

Will you, be pleased to let Mr Chisholm and Mr Crawford the persons referred to, have one fish each, per week, at your own price, and for which make me your debtor,

And oblige,
Mr John Hand,
Fisherman,
Grimsby,

Yrs &c
John W Kerr F. O
20. July 1880.

Sir,

31. May 1880. -

I am in receipt of the copies of a great many sworn to, charges, made against you, by Richard Clarke of Turkey point, Elisha St. Stowell, of Turkey point, and Duncan Jackson, of Charlottville, Fisherman; and which appears to have been forwarded by a Mr W. J. Mac-Innes, M. D. of Vittoria: To, The Honble The Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa. - - -

And I am also in receipt of copies of your (2) letters, dated, Rowan Mills, 14th February 1880, To, The Department of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa, together with the copies of affidavits made by W. P. Innis of Simcoe, a licensed pound net, fisherman, J. S. Allan, David Moore, and St. W. Ansley, licensed pound net fisherman, Port Dover. - -

I am also, in receipt of your letter to the department of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa, dated Rowan Mills, 12. January 1880. — And the copy of a communication from Mess.rs J. S. Allan, David Moore, and St. W. Ansley, dated Port Dover, February 7th 1880, sworn to before James Riddell Esqre J. P. — at Port Dover, on the 7th of February 1880, as rebutting evidence against the alleged charges. - -

I have also the Honor to inform you, that the Honble The Minister, &c, has sent me the copy of a letter written to you, on the 26th instant, on the subject of the alleged charges, as aforesaid. - —

And I have further to state for your information, that I have received instructions from the Honble The Minister, &c, to visit the locality, and make the necessary investigations into such disputed matters between you, and the fishermen as aforesaid; And the Minister adds in his letter of instructions to me; "You had better as soon as convenient, communicate with C. S. Bingham, Esq. and request his assistance.

Now then! I may here tell you, that it will be necessary for me to meet you at Port Hood, as soon as convenient.

But in order to make a thorough enquiry of those charges, it will be necessary for you to bring your letter book, and diary, containing letters written by you to The Department of Marine, and Fisheries, Ottawa; enclosing Monies, License fees, referred to, in Stowell, and in Duncan Jackson's Complaints, made against you, and for which they say! they have never received a fishery license from the department of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa . . .

It will be necessary for me to visit those people, say! Dick Clarke, &c. &c. &c. at Tukey point, and the Seine hauling grounds, in the Inner, and Outer Bay, off Tukey point, when I do come up, and I will require you to accompany me, so that I may see the things there, complained of, and judge for myself! And it will be necessary for me to have Duncan Jackson, and Elisha St. Stowell, &c, dissatisfied persons, to accompany us there . . . You will please write me, what day you can meet me at Port Hood, and we can start from there, for Tukey point, what do you say! will Monday 7th June next, suit you? - if so, please answer at once. - And oblige yrs respectfully,

Charles S. Bingham Esqre. John W. Kerr, J.O.,
Fishery Overseer. —
Rowan Mills - Ont.,

P.S. If you have Orders from the Department instructing you to license Farmers, and to change the license limits of Seine hauling grounds, as referred to in Complaint made: When you Come to meet me, at Port Hood, bring all with you.

Yrs respectfully
J. W. Kerr. - J.O. -

B.t up from page 119. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. and pages 125. -

THE Canadian fisheries promise to prove this year more than usually prosperous.

ONE day recently Mr. Robert B. Noble, who conducts a large fishing business on the Richibucto coast, N.B., took from his nets three hundred and fifty salmon.

Sir,

20. July 1880. —

By reference to my letter to you of the 4th of November 1876, — You will please find that I sent you Bank cheque, No: 8. for the sum of Ten dollars. — —

I also applied for a Seine hauling ground for Mr Wm S. Morse, for the following year of 1877, which was not then, nor has it been since granted, for reasons set forth by the department at the time. — As Mr Morse has never since until now, renewed his application, he being living away from there. — —

I beg most respectfully to recommend, that you will be pleased to grant a Seine hauling license for this current year, as follows; but which shall not interfere with the Seine hauling ground, already granted to Mrs Charlotte and Francis Reid, in Lake Ontario, in front of the same lot, for 1880. — Viz:,

1. Mr William S. Morse, Toronto Township; "For a Seine hauling license, "legal sized mesh" — for to fish a White fish Seine 250 yards long, in Lake Ontario, in front of part of lot No: 25, in the 3rd Concession of the township of Toronto, Broken front; "To be staked off by the Overseer" — Any Salmon, taken must be instantly liberated alive; and no fishing will be permitted, between 6, o'clock p. m. on Saturday night, and 6. o'clock, a. m, the following monday morning. 5, —

The Hon: Minister,
&c, &c, &c.

I Have &c,
John McKee
F. O.

a per 20 ct.

Sir,

20, July 1880,----

I have the Honor to apply for a Sawing hauling license for Col: H. B. Villiers, in Lake Ontario, on Burlington Beach; for this current year; to be the same as last year.—

The Hon: the Minister, &c, &c, &c.—

I Have &c,
John Wilkes,
Fin.

26. paid for letter paper 50¢

"Memorandum".-

Gave Mrs Kerr,	$30.00.	paid Harry Bryant,
" E. J. Kerr,	10.00,	Bathmaster.. $6.75¢.
" Mr Blue,	20.00,	
" Wm Smith	25.00,	
" License fees	10.00,	
" The Children,	6.00,	
Balance on Hand.---	40.00	
do	20.00.	
	$161.00¢,	

26. July 1880.

	$50 paper
	75 News paper
	50 W. McGillivray,
	25 on Hand,
	$163,00¢

paid Taxes $4.42¢. discount 9¢. off. } on Niagara
29. July 1880.- Mr Kerr } Lot.

Sir,

27. July 1880.

I have the honor to apply to you, for the Tracing of the fishing stations on Burlington Beach, in Lake Ontario, according to the plan and survey, made by Mr John Buchanan, deputy Provincial Land Surveyor, bearing date 13th april 1859. —

The boundary stake, between John Taaffe, and Alexander Rollo, has been removed; and I want to re=establish it. — "Between stations 8. and 9." —

Some years ago, I sent back to the Fisheries department, a Tracing I was furnished with of the same; and never required it again, until now. —

The Honble
The Minister,
F. F. F.

I have, &c.,
John W Kerr
P.O.

Receipt for cheque, 0123, for $163.16 sent Back, to the fisheries department Ottawa. —

J W Kerr
P.O.

Mr Wm S. Morse,
Toronto Township,
Clarkson Corners. Ont.

Dear Sir,

I have received a Seine hauling license for you, and will be down shortly, and stake off a fishing ground for you; and at the same time hand you the License.

Yrs &c.,
John W Kerr
P.O.

Hamilton, Ont.
27. July, 1880.

Memorandum made by the Undersigned, on Monday 19. July 1880, for Mr S. P. Bunset, Fisheries department. - Ottawa. - at his Request. -

1880. -

X. January 7th. No spearing that I ever heard of carried on in Manitoba or Sandusk Creeks. - And 3 days in any case should be sufficient, 3. 100. 12.00 $ ¢. - He would drive his own Horse and buggy, - at $1.50, a day, = $ 4.50¢, and $1, board for himself $ 3.00¢, Total $ 7.50¢, enough. - - -

X. January 14th. No spearing in Clear Creek, It is a small speckled Trout stream, in the Township of Haughton; near the boundary line, between Houghton and Bayham, passes down a Ravine under a Bridge, on the Lake shore Road, leading from Port Burwell, to Houghton Centre, into Lake Erie. - He evidently went and came in one day; Hence under my ruling as above $ 2.50¢ is all sufficient. -

X. February, 3rd. - For 6. 150. 18.00, I cant understand why it was necessary, for to spend six days, on this duty; "The spearing is carried on, at, or near the Cottage, mouth of Carrying Creek, &c. &c, and in Rice Bay, Long point, and beyond these places, it was useless to go, at this season of the year. - And 3 days, would be sufficient in all good Consciences, for this; I cant see how he could employ himself, over the whole of the Coast at this season of the year, or for what purpose; unless it might be to see Wm Snook, and other fishermen, of Turkey point, Seine fishing there in "Outer Bay". - "fishing without a license"; "playing on him; to use a mild phrase"; while his trip does not appear to have yielded any good to the Fisheries: 3 days at $1.50¢, for Horse &c. $ 4.50¢, and 3 days board, $ 3.00¢, Total $ 7.50¢. -

X. March, 11th, Dt Simcoe, Dover, and Manitoba, on charges of Clarke, 3 days. I cant see, what it was, that brought him to Simcoe and Manitoba, as the offences said to have been Committed, happened at Dover, and between Dover, and Turkey point, in Lake Erie, and in any Case, 3 days is all sufficient; say 3 days, at $1.50¢ = $ 4.50¢, and $ 3, for board Total, $ 7.50¢, if you allow it!. -

X. March, 15th. To Nyerpee, Normandale, Turkey point, on charges of Jackson; 4. 80, 12.00 $ ¢. Why! it might be asked, was not this, enquiry made on the 11th &c, of March, four days before as it is presumed Bingham had Copies of all the charges made

by Clarke and Jackson, then in his possession; But in any case 3 days is plenty to allow, at $1.50¢, for Horse $4.50¢, and $3 for board, Total $7.50¢.

April 1st. Drove to Trout streams, Stoughton and Walsingham, 3.90, $9.00¢. - He lives in Walsingham, and 3 days, at $1.50¢, for Horse, &c, $4.50¢, and $3 for board; Total $7.50¢, all sufficient.

April 5th At Turkey point, to re-set range stakes. — "Inner Bay?" — By reference to my recent report, there does not appear, as you may observe, that any change has been made in the Ranges of fishing stations; "Inner Bay" — since the Walshe P.L. Surveyor, first laid them off, as per plan and plan of the same; And as it does not appear, that any change was made; see my report; the amount 3 days, 50 miles, $9.00¢, might be disallowed altogether: — This is for you to determine.

April 9th. "To Coast in Stoughton, to look for Seine, Nets; allow him, One day, $1.50¢ for Horse, &c, and $1, for board $2.50¢ One day is sufficient, for this duty, as there is only one place, on the Lake Erie, Coast in Stoughton, where a Seine might be expected to be. — —

April 12th. Went over to Rice Bay, with Guardian McCalls Boat, 4 days 40 miles, $6.00¢, - No doubt he went over himself, and McCalls to try and catch Bill Woodward, of Port Rowan, and others, who was spearing there; "I heard so," and having failed to do so, he should have returned back, at once, unless weather bound!, 2 days is sufficient, as the Boat, was McCalls; give him a dollar a day, for 4 days board, Total $4.00¢.

April 14th, Drove to Trout Streams, Charlotteville, 2, 60. 6.00, - 1.50 per day, for Horse, &c, and $2, for board, $5.00¢, in all. --

April 16th. do. - do. - Township of Middleton, 2.55. 6.00. Say $1.50¢, per day for Horse, &c, 3.00¢ and $2, for Board. Total $5.00¢. - -

April 18th. Sunday at Delhi, One day $2.00¢, say $1.50. "As neither he, nor Horse was doing anything, laying over there for the day!!"

April 19th. Drove to Trout streams Windham, and head waters of Big Creek. - The Head waters is in another County, Oxford; Big Creek, rises in the Township of Burford. - - 3.80, Miles, $9.00. allow him 3 days, $1.50. for Horse, $4.50, and board for self, $7.50, quite sufficient in any Case. - - -

April 22d, To Rice Bay, by Boat from St Williams; 1.28, $3.00, allow $2.50, as he was now on his way back, from head waters of Big Creek, he should Catch some one illegally fishing in "Rice Bay", but will never succeed by starting from St Williams, let him go thro' Big Creek Marsh, -

April 24th. Drove to Turkey point, looking after Seines, 1.30, $3.00, Say $2.50.

April 25th. In Port Rowan, Marsh, over night, with Guardian; 2.15, $3.00, You may allow him all this. - - -

May 4th. Drove to Sandusk Creek, and Selkirk, to look after Grounds; 2.80. $6.00, Say 2, at $1.50 = $3.00, and $2. for Board; Total $5.00. -

May 6th. To Turkey point, over night, in Marsh, 2.28, $3.00, allow, $2.50,

May 7th Drove to West Houghton, looking for Seines, 1.25, $3.00. - allow $2.50.

May 8th To Hautsoke to visit Grounds, after 6. p. m, 2.64, $6.00. Say: allow him $5.00,

May 12th, Over to Long point, looking after lights with Guardian; 2.60, $6.00, Say $2.00. Looking for Bill Woodward again", He, I heard he fooled them.

May 14th Drove to Charlotteville Centre, watching for Poaches, "They never go up as far as Charlotteville Centre, No use in going up there; 2.40, $6.00 Say $5.00.

May 16th, Drove home via Turkey point, 1.25, $3.00, Say $2.50.

May 31, Drove to Simcoe, to get ranges of "Outer Bay", and Setting New posts, 3.65, $9.00. It was not thought necessary up to this date, (9th June last,) to change the Ranges,

why go on such an errand: — And the map, and plan at the time, in his own profession; see Sub section 11. of section 13, of the Fisheries Act, 3, 65, 9.00 H. C. disallowed! It was to T. point, he should have gone

X. June 5th. Drove over Division, to notify for close season for bass; 2.80, 6.00 H. C. — Disallowed altogether! —

Of this item, I am sure that 2.50 H. C. is plenty, if you even allow it!, because the 6th of June, was on a Sunday, and on that Sunday morning, Bingham, has since told me, on 7th June, he received a telegraph, from me sent to him from Port Rowan, (7 Miles,) to meet me next day, the 7th of June, at Port Dover, that the reason he did not answer my letter of 31st ult, May last, I wrote him, apprising him of my appointment, by you to enquire about charges made against him, by Turkey point, fishermen was, that he was away from home all week, and did not get my letter of 31st of May last, until after he had got home late on Saturday night, from a private visit; So here is 6.00 H. C. something wrong, for you to consider over, and give your attention to. — I would disallow it.

On Monday, 7th of June, when he accompanied me from Dover to Turkey point; I was present, and I heard Bingham tell Wm Snook, and other fishermen there, about orders he had specially just received; about Black Bass, close season for Turkey point, Fr. --- My candid opinion therefore is, that Bingham was not over his Division at all on, either Saturday the 5th nor on Sunday the 6th day of June last, in the manner he says; 2.80. 6.00 H. C. — It is all bosh, white lies! hence why I draw your particular attention to this Item, (2.80. 6.00 d. cl. H. C.) in the very explicit way I do! — It would pay, to keep a close eye on Mr Bingham, as matters now stand and appear. —

X. June 7th. Drove to Dover, to meet J. W. Kerr, Esq., 2.70, 6.00 d. cl. H. C. Here he lies again, for he told me, his Mare was lame, and he came by stage from Pt Rowan, to Charley Browns, and Charley Brown drove Bingham, from his Browns

place to Dover; both Charley, and Bingham, told me this, and Charley Brown, met me at Railway station, when the Train gave here arrived at Dover.-- Brown charged him a $.-[1.] For 7, and 8th of June, for Board you may allow him, $2,00 c, and $2,00 for travelling is sufficient, considering the way he travelled.--

X June 9th Drove to St Thomas, to visit Trout and Salmon ponds, 3,100, 9,00 $, c. Unless acting under special Orders from the Fisheries department, Ottawa, to go there, out of his own division, into MacBrides division, I would disallow this amount altogether; But in case he was ordered there, 3 days, for Horse Fe, at 1.50 $ c = 4.50 $ c, and 3 $, for board, = $7.50 c, is all sufficient,

I cant see how it is, his Mare being so lame, on 7th of June, could so soon recover, as to be able to drive on the 9, 10, and 11th of June, 100 Miles.

X 12th June.— Drove to Dover, to visit ponds, after 6. p. m.— 2.50. 6.00 $ c, allow him $4.50 c

X June 14th. Drove to Selkirk, to prosecute parties, no license, 7.150 d, 21.00 Mi $ c,.— In this case, I consider he is entitled to about 14.00 $ c, quite enough; according however, to the Magistrates certificate, every one in the cases, appears to have foregone their Costs, except the Constable, if so! why does Bingham charge 21,00 $ c, where there is nothing at all got in return; not even the Nets, used in the illegal fishing, they at least should be confiscated.-- And a reprimand be sent by dep.t and read by the Magistrate to the said offenders.--

X June 23rd Drove to St Williams and by Boat went out to Light House, for gill nets said to be set, 2.60 d, 6.00 Mi $ c.-- I doubt all this very much, however! if you agree to give him anything, $4, would be sufficient.--

It appears about this time the 24th and 25th June, there was an Excursion, from Pt Dover; and Mr Bingham, was in the City of Hamilton, on Friday 25th June, at all events, for he left a message for me with Bates, and Davis, Fish dealers,— I was absent at Niagara; &c, at the time.-- And on Monday,

the 5th July Bingham, wrote me thus: "I was in Hamilton on "Friday week, 25th June, taking advantage of Excursion to the "Beach, from Dover, I went expressly for to see you, and "regret that Circumstances did not permit our meeting." —

By this you can form your own Conclusions regarding the Binghams veracity; for Hans told me Bingham was about the fish Market for 2 days, trying to see me; on a pleasure trip. — —

X June 26th, Drove to Dover, to visit pounds, after 5½ p.m, 2.55, 6.00. —

As there is no doubt Bingham, was on his way back again, from the Excursion from Dover to Hamilton, I dont think he is entitled to any remuneration whatever! under a false heading; "Drove to Dover, to visit pounds, after 6, p.m, 2.55. 6.00" for most decidedly he must have been permanently fixed all day 26th or part of it in Dover, on 26th June last, on his return from Hamilton, and Could never drive on that day from Rowan Mills to Port Dover. — —

In conclusion, I may add, I dont consider it is necessary to visit pounds Mets, every Saturday night to see if Gunnels are down, It is in my opinion an unnecessary expense. You might also deduct 25¢, for breakfast, and 25¢, for tea, more than I have deducted; out of every day Bingham went away, and every day, he returned home. — —

Hamilton, Ontario, 19. July 1880.

Yours Respectfully,
John W. Kerr, F.O.

Memorandum for the Barrat,

I am in receipt of your Memorandum, in respect to the diary, and acts of the C. S. Bingham J. Coroner, Roman Mills - for half year ending 30th of June last, and having gone carefully over every Item, therein, I herewith send you the same; making my remarks, therein; on each Item deduction is made, &c. &c, which I hope will be of some assistance to you in unravelling a false Conception, and hidden mystery. - I also return back to you, Bingham's own act, his letter, and the Magistrates decision in the cases disposed of, by him, on the 18th June last, at Selkirk. - I dont know what further to think at present, or say beyond what my 13, pages, herewith contain, and which coming, some part under my own personal knowledge seems so strange. -

J. W. Kerr, J. Coroner,

Hamilton 19, July 1880.

Addenda, Memorandum. —

On closer examination, of what I have already written you, for 12th and the 14th of June, on page 11, I believe now that Bingham, continued his Journey on from Port Dover, to Selkirk; so that 50, miles, I believe should come out of the account; If not, 2.50, $6.00 as well!!!.

Give those Items of $4.50 and $14.00, the reduced amounts of $6, and $21, your most particular attention. -

It is now my opinion, his, is a regular made up, and forged act, and if Bingham is asked by you to make out the act again; giving you day and date, each day, by itself, that he will never be able to do so, If you keep the present act from his observation, he furnished you with. —

Hamilton, Ont.,

19. July 1880.

J. W. Kerr J. C.

Private,

Memorandum, for Mr Bauset,

I have been considering over Brighams, Account, since I made my Notes for you on each Item, and forwarded the same to you, on yesterday evening, and I have come to the Conclusion, that perhaps as you say; "Your remarks will be considered as quite Confidential, and your name wont be mentioned in connection with the Audit of Brighams acct."

Please think this over, and see how my Name can be mentioned, if it became necessary, for you, to do so.-

What I have Noted for you, on the 5, 6, and 7th of June is Correct. —

And my Notes on 24th and 25th June is Correct, My impression is, that if Brigham drove to St Williams, &c, &c, see 23rd of June, he never returned home to Rossmills, until 27th June, after the Excursion to Hamilton and Beach, had returned back to Port Dover. —

I could easilly give all this out for you, or anything else that you wish, if you order me to do so. —

Hamilton, Ont.
20. July 1880.

Yrs Faithfully,
John W. Kerr
J.P.

Answer from Mr Bauset —

Memorandum:- Mr Bauset — Please send me cheque for Incidentals quarter ending 30th of June, and oblige Yours Obediently

Hamilton, Ont.
19. June 1880.

J W Kerr J.P. —

Answer,

Your acct was put thro' the Mill some days ago, but I am not the miller, You Know however I'll press the issue of cheque. - Thanks for notes on B's acc. They are to the point exactly —

S. P. B. —

Memorandum; Mr Bauset, F. department Ottawa, —

please refer to Brighams a/c, say for instance,

April 12th "Went to Rice Bay, with guardian McCalls Boat, 4.40. 6.00. # 4??

Count,

Say, 12 April, is 1, day, 13, April, is 1 day, —

14, April, is 1 day, 15, April is 1, day, — Total 4, days,

Then again, he says! —

April 14th "Drove to Trout streams, Charlottville", 2.60, 6.00. # 4??

Count,

Say, April 14, is 1, day,

" " 15, is 1, day, Total 2, days, —

Already counted in, in the previous entry,

"Should come out altogether", —

May 6th 2, days, that would be 6th and 7th of May, while May 7th is counted in again as you will find; "1, separate day".

The Mileage is wrong,

Hamilton, Ont.
23 July 1880.

J W Kerr F. O.

S. P. Bauset
Fisheries Department,
Ottawa, —

Will send more Notes, today, on Bs accounts,

J W Kerr

23. July 1880,

Wrote Big Jim,

Thomas Elliot.

27. July 1880,

Niagara, — You will have to pay, and the costs beside, Shall I pay here for you, Answer,

John W Kerr,

My dear Sir, 23. July 1880,

By this "Fishing Regulation", you will please find out, as I have already told you, that no person can fish "without having a license" — Nets of any description ...

You have been complained of, please send me your License Money, $5, for last year, and this, and I will get you a License immediately — Yrs Sincerely

Thos. Reid Esqr, John Wilson F.O.,
Grantham, St Catherines,

My dear Sir, 23. July 1880,

By this order or fishing regulation, you will please find out, as I have already told you, that no person can fish "without having a license", a Net of any description..

You have been complained of, please send me your License Money for this year, $3, and I will get and send you a License immediately. Yrs Sincerely

Lewis Belfie Esqr, John Wilson
Grantham, F.O.
St Catherines. 3

23. July 1880,

Wrote Mr J. B. Vanvlack, of Vanvlack P.O., and Mr James Bantwell, Fisherman, Niagara, into

24. July 1880,

Examined the Register, in the International Hotel for 25th of June, and found that Jas R. Riddell, Moore, Reid Platt, and C. L. Brigham F. Owners of Erie Dined there on that day, agreeing with the latter statement, and the Excursion. Vic. Vc. Vc.

Sir,

26. July 1880.

I have the Honor to send you Bank draft No; 251, for the sum of Ten dollars.

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for this Current year as follows;

1, Messrs Masters and Keith; — For Boat License to fish yards of file Nets in Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Niagara, already received and delivered; 5.00,

2, Messrs Allen and Charles Bolton; — For Boat License to fish yards of file Nets in Lake Ontario in front of the Township of Niagara, already received and delivered. 5.00.

Total $10.00

The Honble
The Minister,
F. F. F.,

I Have &c
John Wilkes
F.O.

Mrs Charlotte and Francis Reid,
Toronto Township. —
Clarksons Corners, —

I have received a License from the Fisheries department, Ottawa, for Mr Wm S, Morse, for a Seine hauling ground, in Lake Ontario in front of lot No: 25, in the 3rd Concession of the Township of Toronto, "Broken Front," I will come down in a few days, to measure off the ground for him. —

In the mean time, you be prepared, whenever I come, to point out the extent, of the Seine hauling grounds, you have been using and still require. —

And with Kind regards, — Yours &c.
J W Kerr
F.O.

Hamilton, Ont^o
29. July 1880.

put up in Dave Fitches, the Regulation in Council, That fishing Nets, was prohibited, except under Leases and Licenses from the Department of Fisheries &c.

This was done, on 31st of July 1880.

"J. H. Corey, told me this 31st of July, That Dick Teafe caught this morning 150 White fish, in gill Nets, just behind the Bass hauling grounds. —
and Bob Webster also talked about it, to Dave Fitch and others. — I spoke to Dick Teafe myself and warned him, not to repeat it. —

J. W. Kerr, J.P.

J. W. Kerr, J.P.

My dear Sir, Hamilton, Ontario.

When at the Town of Niagara, last week, I observed you had a Boat House, and that you had increased its dimensions lately.

As this Boat House, is on the Fishery Reserve of the Niagara River, you will have to pay five dollars, a year, to the fisheries department Ottawa, for the privilege you enjoy. — —

Please give the address to Mr Thomas Elliot and he will send it to me, and I will "apply" at once, and get you a privilege (there) to remain there, — and exercise your Calling, and the renting out of Boats. —

Yours truly

John W. Kerr
J.P.
Hamilton, Ont

Mr John Rodhead,
Boat Builder
Niagara.

2d Augt 1880.

My dear Paddy, — 26. July 1880. —

It is now getting on to the end of July; the Seventh month in this year, and you have not paid me yet!. your licence fee $5, for this year $5. —

Nor your licence fee, $10. for last year; 1879. advanced by me, for you to the Fisheries department. — If there is any other way, by which you can make a living; you had better make up your mind, and go at it, for when a fisherman neglects to pay up his licence fee, there is an end to his fishing. — The law reads thus: "Lessees or Licensees, shall have no claim to renewal of licenses, if in arrears of rent, or per centages during four months after the same is due." "and shall forfeit the same", —

Now then you owe for last year, $10. — and for this year licence fee $5, and as it is nearly 7 months past due, Besides my instructions are Not to deliver any licence until I am just paid the money. — And as you are aware no man can fish without a licence; why not pay!.

Then I may tell you again, that you have been complained of twice or three times this year; for catching white fish with an illegal fill Net. — And having spoken to you once myself. you promised faithfully you would not repeat it, but you have done so; so that in fact, I can no longer place any confidence in you whatever! and that in short you had better turn your hand to something else, besides fishing for a living. —

Fill Nets for catching salmon Trout and White fish, shall have meshes of at least, five inches extension measure, whilst I have been told, you have been fishing 4½, and even down as low as 3" inches, extension measure, and with these illegal fill nets, you have been catching small tyed white fish, and disposed of them to a peddler of the name of Hause; and you have peddled and sold them yourself, and turned back to drinking,

and got drunk, repeatedly, again! and again!! &c. even so late as last week. –

So that the time has arrived, when you must live by the fishery laws, and the temperance law, pay up $15, to me at once or quit altogether. – –

You one more, and another man are the only men, who sell fish and get drunk, so look out. –

I must have my money or you must stop fishing; I have only to write the word to Ottawa and that is the end of you. –

Mr Paddy Hand –
Wynona.

Yrs J W Carr
F. Overseer.

Wednesday, 28. July 1880. –

1/. At St Catherines, squared up accounts, between myself, and J. W. Keating Esqre J. P. to the amount of $8.80¢. Thence on to the Town of Niagara. – went out 9. a. m. came in at 6.30. p. m. Miles 50. Rec'd Jane $1. 544 B 2. Board 90¢. Heard that Jack Bolton, had a gill net set in L. Ontario, that extended from Kennedys Hollow to Stephensons point; Will write to The fishery department. – – – Bros 15¢.

Thursday. 29. July 1880. –

1/. At Niagara, all day, heard that the Dutchman had a line set in the River for eels, on the Canada side; employed young Bob Reid, to take it up. – Board $1.00 Miles 6, Bt $1.

Friday. 30. July 1880.

1/. At Niagara, St Catherines and Hamilton; heard from Big Jim, that he has frequently met Bolton, coming in on Monday morning, with sail up on his Boat at 6. o clock, a. m. on Monday

Morning, when going out himself. – Miles 50. Stage 50¢, Buss. 15¢ Ry fare $1.00¢, dinner 40¢. Breakfast 25¢, 25¢ do $2.45¢.

Saturday 31. July 1880.

Received $4.50¢. from Mr Patrick Stand, 1/n of 15¢, he owes me. – – –

"Memorandum"–

After a patient hearing, and no evidence being produced to convict, James B. Snure, "County constable", Elgin Fisher, and Wm Gregory," the charges against them, was dismissed. – – –

Hence costs of $6.60¢. – – –

In the charges made against Elias Elliot, and Enos Wills; It was given in evidence in the cases above; that they fished the Seine, for Smelt they, and they caught Bass,– Information was then laid, against Elliot and Wills, before J. W. Keating Esqre J. P, of St Catherines... The morning however! that the Summonses were issued by him; Elliot and Wills, were brought before Clark Snure Esqre J. P – the constable (Snures) brother at Jordan, and fined $1. each costs, hence the $1.70¢ costs...

This was all done, by the constable Snure, who disregards the fisheries, and the fisheries Act...

Copies of Summonses, issued by Clark Snure are herewith; please write and ask him for $1. 1/n the fine, belonging to the Department.

Elliot, and Wills, were subsequently fined again $2, each, and costs, for fishing within the Licensed limits of the Abm St. Grob, in the 20, Mile Creek, and pond.– Elgin Fisher, was fined $2, and costs, for having bass, in his possession during close season.–

Solomon Weimer, gave evidence agt Snure, Fisher and Gregory in the first case, hence 50¢, witness fees. –

Hamilton, 30. June 1880.

Respectfully Submitted.
John W. Kerr.
J. P.

Notice to The Niagara Fishermen. —

When I recently visited the Town of Niagara; it came to my knowledge, that fishermen were met coming in, having their gill nets fished up, at a quarter past 6. o'clock, a.m, on Monday Morning; by other fishermen; then only on their way going out to lift. — —

"If this is repeated, the Law must or will have to take its Course". —

Then I understand some fishermen have been fishing pickerel gill Nets, tacked on to the end of their White fish gill Nets. —

"This must be discontinued at once". —

Hamilton, Ont.,
2, August 1880.

By Order
John W Kerr
F.O.

Continued;

I was informed that White fish caught in Herring gill Nets, were landed at "Kennedys Hollow" — buried in the sand, where they remained, until taken from thence, by a Fish pedlar, and sold. —

"This must never be repeated".

Again!, I heard of a Fisherman, who runs a string of pickerel gill Nets from "Kennedys Hollow", to "Stephensons Point".

If true, $20. for his Boat License, would not be too much to charge him; even suppose pickerel sells at 1½ cents each. — —

An arrangement should be instantly made between License fishermen, if possible to obtain better prices, or abandon the Catching of pickerel altogether, until better prices can be obtained. —

By Order
John W Kerr
F.O.

Hamilton, Ont.,
2. August 1880.

My dear Mr Elliot,

please give the enclosed to Mr John Ned Stead, get from him the money, and send it to me immediately. — He cannot remain there, except he pays a licence. I will thank you to paste up the enclosed Notice for me. — I must endeavour, if I can to keep Courting people straight, by gentle means if possible. —

I got home, all right, and with my kind regards, to Mrs Elliot, the Children, and to add, an old phrase all enquiring friends. Believe me,

Yours Sincerely
John W Kerr
P.O. Stamilton

Mr Thos: Elliot
Niagara,

2, Augt 1880.

please put it, on a Board, so that you may take it in, every evening,

Yrs &c J W Kerr
P.O.

postage stamps, 50 cts

Saturday, 31. July 1880. —

Gen B. Beach, to see Captain Thomas Campbell, Light House Keeper, — and make enquiries about the "Fishing", went out at 4. p.m. came in at 7.30. p.m. Miles 26, H & B. 2.00 cts, E. Kerr, with me - - - -

~~Sir,~~ Confidential, 3. August 1880.

In obedience to the request contained in the annexed letter addressed to me from Mr Thomas Campbell, Light House Keeper - at the B. Canal, on B. Beach; I have the Honor to report for your information, That on the 25, day of October 1876. - (25 October 1876, Wednesday) as per my diary, I stopped at Mr F. N. Coreys House, on B. Beach; My son Charles J. Kerr, a young man (now) of 24, years of age was then with me; F. N. Corey, who is father to Mrs Campbell, wife of the said Thos: Campbell then told me, he had made a good space, a good thing of it, had rented his House and premises; given up everything to Harry Wilson, for $200, a year, with hay &c. free, for himself his wife; and little daughter; that Harry Wilson and Aunt, meaning Mrs Thos: Campbell, wife of Thos: Campbell, had taken up with each other as man and wife, and lived together, and they were there and then in F. N. Corey's House: as proprietors of the Tavern, they and I saw Harry Wilson, and Mrs Thos: Campbell there, on this occasion I now refer to. - My son Charles J. Kerr, heard F. N. Corey, use the words about his daughter and Harry Wilson, and he can corroborate the above statement and facts. -

"For Several years previous to this date, I employed F. N. Corey, to assist me privately, in capturing illegal fishing &c, and since this happened, I have not employed him. - -

And I have not gone into F. N. Corey's House, only when duty compelled me, since he told me this story of Harry Wilson and his daughter Mrs Thos: Campbell. - -

Soon after Thos: Campbell, was appointed L. H. Keeper, he expressed his wish to me, that he would be happy if, his wife would return (home) back; and live with him again; and he would forgot and forgive; and he solicited me to persuade her to return. - I delivered the Message, and I tried to persuade her to go home to Campbell; but she declined and her mother Mrs F. N. Corey, who was present, spoke up in a passion, and said she shall never go back to him again. - - -

Mr Campbell, ever since his appointment, has I believe discharged his duties faithfully, I have had opportunities, as I remember, both by nights, and by day, when on duty on B. Bah, of observing him, and I must say, ~~he has~~ I observed, he was always attentive to his duties and most civil, obliging, and courteous to me, when my duties caused me to cross, and re-cross, the ferry there in his charge. —

Harry Wilson, left and went away to Manitoba. —

At this present time, and during the last 8 or 9 months, Mrs Campbell, has been living in "F. N. Coneys. House, married again this time; as report has it, to a man named Robert Webster, and who is living with her, as man and wife; but whose real name, I heard, is Callaghan. —

Previous to his coming on B. Bah, he was resident in Toronto. — Webster keeps a Horse and Waggon and peddles fish and vegetables. — —

Now as regards Mr Thos Campbell House Keeper; personally I dont know anything about her myself; Campbell has informed me, that she is his own Niece, his eldest sisters daughter; her father name was George Martin, he died on 8th of November 1878, aged 60 years. —

I have sometimes seen her there, as I passed, and I have heard from reliable persons, resident on B. Bah, who from daily observation, are the best Judges, that the House Keeper, since she came there, has conducted herself, in a very proper, prudent, and becoming manner. —

You will please pardon me for trespassing so much on your time. — And believe me with due respect. —

To, William Smith Esqre — I Have, &c.

The deputy of the — John Walker, P.O.,

Minister of Marine, &c Ottawa. —

P.S. If you desire any further information; please let me know, as I can tell you almost everything about B. Bah, for the last 15 years and 8 months. —

By &c. J. Walker
P.O.

My dear Sir,

I have just learned that a Fireman is wanted to fire for Mr Fred: Hayhurst, Engine Driver, who runs a Passenger Train, between Palmerston and Hamilton, and from Palmerston to Brantford, alternately; and return. —

The appointment of a Fireman, to this Route from Palmerston, and Southampton Branch of the Line, is, I believe considered promotion. — My son George Kerr, Fireman, is just entitled to this promotion, being now nearly 4 years, on the north end of W. G. and Bruce Ry; and going on 7, years, and 6. months, in the Service of the G. W. Railway Company. —

The present, Foreman of your department, at Palmerston has promised George, he would try, and get this run for him, I believe it is George's turn, if so, will you be pleased to appoint him to it. —

"There is no black marks, not even a reprimand against George". —

Pardon me for trespassing on your time, and believe me to be an old G. W. Ry, employee myself, and

Yours Most Obedient Servant

Charles Donald Esq.re
Mechanical Superintendent
G. W. Ry, Hamilton,

John W.m Kerr
F. S.

paper Fastener 65 cts

To, Messrs Robert Reid, Jr.
and Robert Taylor.—
Fishermen, at Niagara,

Fishery Overseer's Office,
Hamilton 6. August 1880.—

This will empower, and author=
ize you, to fish up, seize and keep for me, all Stocks and
Lines; you may at any time, find set in the Canadian Waters of
the Niagara River; between the Dock at Niagara; and the
Dock at the Village of Queenston.—

Given under my Hand and Seal, at Hamilton, this
6th day of August 1880.—

also wrote to Thos: Elliot
of Niagara; enclosing to
him, the same. J W Kerr P.O.,

Johnl W Kerr,
Fishery Overseer, and J. P.,
for County of Lincoln.—

Immediate

My dear Sir,

This day, I received a postal Card, Com=
plaining against you; for catching small white fish with
an illegal Net; in Lake Ontario; if you cannot obey
the Fisheries Act, Rules, orders in Council, and Regulations;
I shall have to recommend that your Licenses to fish be
Cancelled.— No use in trying any longer to keep
on breaking the Law, as you must either obey the Fishery
law; or if not, leave, and earn your bread, by labour=
ing honestly, at something else. Yours &c,

Mr Peter Math,
Fisherman, Pt Dalhousie

Johnl W Kerr P.O.,
6. Aug 1880.

paid Harry Bryant $6.75 on
a/c of Statute Labor,
J W Kerr

My dear Bil,

I send you this day, a copy of the Fishing Act. — By this you will learn everything that is legal or lawful in fishing: — and illegal and unlawful in fishing. — If you make any arrangement with Mrs Reid, or her Husband, about that lower haul Seine Hauling ground, I will recommend the department, to sanction it; they are entitled to something for clearing the ground. — You might go, and see what you can do, with them about it, and let me know. Read the Act over carefully.

Yours &c.

John Ross

P.S.

Mr Wm S. Morse,
Clarksons Corners
P. Office.

6. Augt 1880.

Wrote Thos. Elliot same day
J. Ross

Thursday, 4, August 1880.

At Port Credit, Clarksons Corners, and down to the Lake, and measured off a Seine hauling ground 10 chains. from Alder Tree, East, for Mr Wm S. Morse Toronto Township, Mrs Charlotte Reid, Francis Reid, Mr Wm S. Morse, and Mr Smith, Mr Morse's Son in law, all present, Smith, held tape line with me; went out 6. a. m. came in at 6. p. m. Miles 68, Key fare 2. St & B. 1.00, Breakfast and dinner — 50, Louisa drove me down in the morning. — —

Sir,

5. August 1880,

I have the Honor to report, for your information, that for some time past, I have been seriously thinking over Sub section 2, of section 9, of the Fisheries act, This; "And Gill Nets will not be set within two Miles of any Seining ground".—

Does this mean, that at no time, during the year, shall they gill nets, be set, within two Miles of a Seine hauling ground; if so, my mind, and feelings are in accord therewith.—Well! but some interested persons, gill Net fishermen, for instance, say; The part of the Sub section only means; that when Seine hauling is being carried on, this Sub section; should be only in operation.— My desire now is, that this part of the Sub Section, shall be always in operation; at the same time, I may as well— Candidly confess to you such is not at present the case; I would like your instructions there.

I will here, give you an example;—

"Take for instance, the Seine Hauling White fish grounds, on B,— Beach, in Lake Ontario, this present season.—

White fish Seine Hauling, has been very good this season, up to this present time.— Because I would not allow either Herring Seines, or any Kind of Gill Nets, to be fished until the White fish Seining was over, ended for the season.

In fact, there is only one Boat License issued so far, to a B, Beach, fisherman; he has not however, commenced to fish yet; the impression has been fast gaining ground, in my mind, that "no Herring Seine", nor Herring, nor White fish Gill Nets, shall be set nor fished on, behind, nor within 2, Miles of any of the White fish Seine hauling grounds on B. Beach, in Lake Ontario; at any time.—

"The White fish have become now so numerous again there; that a rigid protection, should be at once issued by the department, Ottawa; to enforce strict obedience in this respect.—

Heretofore, the practice was, I may tell you in fishing.

1st. Herring gill Nets, were the first nets set out; which drove the White fish away: — "Set first every year!."

2nd. "Then Herring Seines by which so many white fish were often, illegally caught. — "The second Net fished". —

3rd "Then the legal white fish Seine fishing. — —

4th. Next the Herring Seine was fished again. —

5th And Herring and White fish gill net fished at the back of the Seine hauling ground. —

6th. And then to finish up the season, the Herring Gill Nets, were set from the Lake shore, on the White fish, Seine hauling grounds; when Herring are on their way to the Spawning grounds. — — —

Thus! you will please observe how very severe and continuous, the Netting was! and has been on all Kinds of fish, on these Seining grounds, in L. O. on B. Beach. —

My object is then; you will please understand "for greater protection", please give the Lake shore Herring, on B. beach a rest. — —

White fish have now become so numerous again, and prices have gone down so low, as to place this delicious fish, within every mans means. — —

"The Sunday clause of the F. Act, now scrupulously observed, was a grand move, and great protection to White fish. — please see Sub section 14. of Section 13. —

It would be a wise move; "if you approve", to stop the Herring from being taken, by Herring Gill Nets, on the Seine fishing grounds, of B. Beach, or within 3 Miles, of the shore, in L. Ontario. — — And Herring Seining, I beg also to recommend should be also, discontinued, except at stated periods, as in B. bay, in spring, during each year, to be hereafter

and as heretofore fished there. --

Now as regards the Seine Hauling grounds at Niagara, say; from the Dock, in the Niagara River, up to the Four Mile pond; a distance of about four miles; altho' pickerel fill Nets are fished in front of a part of the Thomas Elliots, Seining ground, where no Seining is carried on, and in front of Messrs Allan, Ball, Bolton, and Cantwell's Seine Hauling ground, not a mile out, after Seine fishing is ended, each spring, every year, for the year. --

My firm belief is now, that pickerel gill nets fishing should henceforth, cease there, unless gill nets are increased up in size; to 5" inches, extension measure. -- Give the pickerel a chance to grow and increase in size, which they will rapidly do, for during this present season, pickerel, have sold at 1¢, a piece all round, and when I was down there at Niagara, last week, pickerel only brought 1½ cents a piece. -- The pickerel have an abundance of food, in the Alewives &c. &c, and in 3 years, from this, if you coincide with me, in the tenor of this report; pickerel will be 10, and 15, pounds weight each, instead of 1, 2, and 3 pounds, as at this present time. --

I would like very much, and I wish to recommend for your approval in this case, that no pickerel fill nets, nor White fish gill nets, be set any more, in front of the above Seine Hauling grounds. -- Nor be set at any time, nearer to the Town of Niagara, than the Outlet from the Four Mile pond, into L. Ontario. -- There are abundance of places above the outlet as far up as Pt Dalhousie or say; even to the 6, Mile Creek, in L. Ontario, where White fish, have been caught in abundance this season; with legal White fish gill Nets. -- The pickerel like the Stor-ring of B. Beach, should have a short rest; -- from gill netting, at least until prices become once more remuner-ative, to the licensed fishermen who ought to see this; and still they persist in catching them. --

These are matters that I wish to consult you on, I hope you will pardon me at the same time, but please give your Orders, and establish a better Order of things in the premises.

The Pickerel gill nets, should be ordered to be not less than 5 inches (mesh,) extension measure. I strongly recommend every thing herein for your adoption. —

The Honble
The Minister of
H. F. F.

I Have &c,
John M. Kerr,
F.O.

Sir.

9. August 1880,

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank draft No: 3031 for the sum of Ten dollars. — —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for Boat Licenses in Lake Ontario, on B. Beach, for this current season. —

1. David Fitch, For Boat License, already received, and delivered. $ 5.00.

2, Richard Taaffe, B. Beach: For Boat License, 5.00.

Total, $ 10.00.

You need not send me a License for Richard Taaffe until after you have established, the interpretation of sub section 2, of section 9, of the Fishery Act. —

Then a properly worded, and guardedly expressed Boat License can be made out for him, and others.

The Honble
The Minister,
H. H. &c.

I Have &c.
John M. Kerr
F.O.

Notice to the Burlington Beach Fishermen. --

According to Fishery Regulation, dated, Ottawa, 23rd of August 1870;
"Fishing by means of Nets, or other apparatus without Leases or Licenses
"from the Department of Marine and Fisheries, is prohibited in all waters
"situated within the Province of Ontario". --

It is therefore unlawful for any fisherman to fish any kind of Net unless he has a License for to fish it. And only legal Nets shall be fished. --

No fisherman has authority at present to fish Herring Seines, nor White fish gill nets, on, behind nor within; 2 Miles of any Seine hauling grounds on B. Beach;

The present White fish Seine hauling Licenses, gives no power to any licensed fisherman to fish; beyond what is specified, on the face of that License. --

The fisheries department has been applied to, by me on this subject, and when heard from the result will be made known.

Hamilton, Ont.,
6. August 1880. —

By Order.
John W. Kerr, F.O.

N.B. White fish gill Nets shall not be less, than 5" inches, extension measure in each, and every mesh. —

J. W. Kerr, - F. Overseer.

Saturday, 7, August 1880. —

1/1 On B. Beach, measured Aley: Rolla's white fish gill net, and found it all regular, went out at 4. p.m. came in at 7.30. p.m. Miles 28. 54 ¾ B. 2.00 ¢, C. G. K. with me. - Saw Campbell, J. S. Bell, and Dave Fitch, Mrs Sherbenal, Dan and Mrs McGwyne. -

David Wells, was just dying and died, so we passed by his House. - It was 2.30. p.m. then. - - -

Wednesday, 11, August 1880. —

1/1 At Winona, to see Paddy Hand, (see my pocket diary.) went out at 3. a.m. came in at 11. a.m. Miles 24. 44 ¾ B. 2.00 ¢.

My dear Sir, 13. August 1880.—

I am just in receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, with five dollars, enclosed therein; being license fee, as you say; for this present year 1880.—

But I may repeat to you here again my application of 21st June last, that I have not yet received your license fee, $5, for last year 1879.—

And as this amount is still so long over due by you, and to save you, from losing your License altogether, for next year, please send me $5, for the year 1879.—

I may mention for your information that on the 13th day of March 1879; as I find it entered in my letter Book, I sent your license fee, $5, for the year 1878, to "The Fisheries department, Ottawa;—

Thus! "No: 4, "Francis Portwine, Gates Gulley, "For Boat License to fish 2.000, Yards of Salmon Trout, and White fish gill, Nets, in Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Scarborough, for the past year of 1878, lic.a del.a. 5.00"

I got this amount on this same day, I sent it to the fisheries department, Ottawa; from Mr. Patrick Gray, fisherman, on the Island, Toronto; to whom you gave it, for me some time before.— But I have never received any license money for the year 1879.—

You will please therefore send me $5 more on receipt for the year 1879, and oblige

Mr. Francis Portwine,
Fisherman,
Gates Gulley,
Scarborough, Ont.

Yrs. Truly,
John W. Carr,
Forwarder.

13. August 1880.

Sir,

14. August 1880.

I have the honor to report, that very recently, I was informed by Mr. D. B. Chisholm, Barrister, that an application would be made by a Company, composed of Messrs. D. B. Chisholm, Barrister and George Bibb, Paymaster, of the G. W. Railway, Hamilton: and Messrs. Springer and Kern, of Burlington, in the township of Nelson, to either; ~~the~~ Hon.ble The Ministers of Marine and Fisheries or to The Local Government, Toronto; "For to License, or Lease a small strip or Island, or Bar of Marsh land; in Burlington Bay, in the township of Nelson, and County of Halton, and which is situated on the west side of Brants or Kerr's pond, in Burlington Bay. - -

"This Bar, covered nearly over at all times with sedge grass, and bull rushes, is nearly covered over with water; and is not more than about two chains wide, from water to water; perhaps more, when the water in the Bay, is very low, as is the case this Summer, and is very much less, when the water is high. -

I believe this Bar, or Island, does therefore, legally come, and properly come within the Control of the Fisheries dep.t, Ottawa, as a fishery reserve of 2, chains; with Kerr's pond, (one chain) on the east side of it; and B. bay, proper, (one chain) of which Kerr's pond, set apart, &c. &c. forms a part, of the said Bay, is on the west side, and where there is two bass standing grounds. - -

Mr. D. B. Chisholm, said the Bar, &c. was required by the Members of the Company, as above, for Wild duck shooting purposes. - - If! said Mr. Chisholm, it belongs to the Local Government; Mr. Springer would apply for it; and if it belongs to the Fisheries, he would apply for it; thro' The Hon; Wm. Mac Dougall M. P. for the County of Halton. -

I. of Course said it belongs to The Fisheries which it does. - - -

and if he applied, I would recommend it to be li=
censed to him and his Colleagues, "for fishing purposes".

It is worth a rental per year, of $10. or $20 dollars. --

The intention is to feed the wild ducks, with grain, by depositing the same in the waters of the Bay, at convenient shooting distance therefrom; from the bar or Island, so as to attract, and bring the Wild ducks there to feed. —

Mr Chisholm, as well as myself is aware that this Bar, &c, forms no part of the Brant pond, nor of the Brant Estate, all of which, has now passed away, to other people. —

I would respectfully recommend, if you approve to grant a License, at the rate of $10. for the balance of this year. — And with due respect,

The Honble
The Minister,
&c, &c, &c,

I Have, &c.
John W Kerr
F. Crewson

Monday. 16. August 1880.

On B. Beach, to examine white fish gill nets; but did not succeed in getting Dick Taffes nor D. Fitch, set out, when I got there. - examined 8. nets. Knitting at Mrs McGregors, and Dick Taffes, they were of legal size. examined some at Mrs Shabonal. I found Knitting there for McGregors, it was only 4½ inches, went back, saw Mrs McGregor and told her about it; and told her nothing under a 5" inch mesh, can be fished for White fish. — Examined and measured off Jack Taffe's Seine hauling frontage 20. chains 8. links - from stake to stake. Jack Taffe with me; saw where Dave Fitch and Alex. Rolls, were setting out their gill nets, it was not 2. miles from Seine hauling

grounds. — Found Myra Coney, setting out on her line, on Mon: Coneys Seine hauling ground, and on my return home saw a boat out in front of John Hynes, apparently setting a line and hooks. Supposed to be Thomas McGillivray - heard he was setting on the Seine hauling grounds, which is wrong. —

Was at John Coneys, and got from him the number of yards of gill net, he intends fishing - saw Mrs Shorhouse, Bob Hall & his sister Maggy; Mrs Shorhouse paid me $5. for her license read letter from the department, to Thos McGuire Sam Coy, Dave Fitch, Jack Daffe, Dick Daffe and Don Coney, written by the S. P. Bennett, giving interpretation of Sub sec in 2. of Section 9. F. Act, Herring Seine and Herring gill, Nets. — went out at 8.30. a.m. came in 6. p.m. miles 28. M and buggy, 2.00. dinner 50¢, C. g. Kerr, ~~with me $1x~~

left out. $1x

Dear Sir, 16. August 1880.

I am just in receipt of your application, for a license to fish a Seine in Lake Erie, in Sugar Loaf Bay. —

In reply, I beg to inform you, that for the balance of this year, you will have to pay, $3, dollars. —

On receipt of this send me the money, and I will apply at once, and obtain for you a license from the Fishery department, Ottawa. —

Yr Very Truly
John Wekerr F.O.
Hamilton, Ont.

Mr
John Peterman,
Port Colborne, Ont.

Sunday, 22, August 1880. —

On B. Beach, looking after persons reported to be fishing on Sunday, found all regular, went out at 9. a.m. came in at 1.30. p.m. Miles 24. M & B. 2.00, C. Kerr with me. —

Sir.

16. August 1880.

You have again been complained off to me, for fishing a few and a half, inch mesh gill net, and Catching White fish, with the same.

Now the Law, expressly says; you cannot fish any gill Net under 5" inch mesh extension measure for White fish you must instantly, on receipt of this warning, destroy all such gill nets so illegally in use; and give me security and Assurances that you have done so, otherwise I will have to fine you, take all such gill nets from you, Confiscate the file nets and recommend your license for the balance of this year, to be cancelled. — —

Now then you must at once choose, what you are to do, either obey the Law, and go on fishing legally, or lose nets, boat and all you possess. —

"Fisherman on B. Beach, with a full fine inch mesh, White fish gill nets, are catching 80, 100 and 115, white fish at a lift, and I dont see how it is, you Cannot do this. —

Unless you are prepared to this, you may depend upon it, the Law will have to be put in full force against you, by me. —

In Pol. Hand,

Fisherman,

Minnow, Ont.

Yrs. &c.,

J. W. Kerr

F. O.

P.S. "This is the last warning you will ever get from me".

J. W. Kerr F. O.

Note! It is neither your brother, nor his wife, that is telling of you.

J. W. Kerr F. O.

Copy.

In Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Saltfleet White fish gill nets; shall not be fished within 2 miles of any Seine hauling ground, except by the licensee who holds the ground; and then only when white fish seining has ceased by them. —

Herring gill nets shall not be set on the Lake shore of any Seine hauling grounds in L. Ontario on B. Beach, before the 1st day of October next, and in each year. — And they must be lifted before 6. o'clock, p.m. on every Saturday night, and not be set out again until after 6. o'clock, a.m. on the following monday morning". — J.W. Lee F.O. 17. Aug. 1880.

Herring Seine — shall not be fished except on the Herring Seine hauling grounds in B. bay, and in L. Ontario, west of White fish station No: 14, in Lake Ontario — on north of the Burlington Canal. — —

Sir,

17. August 1880.

I have the honor to apply to you for Boat Licenses, for to fish White fish, S. Trout, and Herring, and Cisco gill Nets in L. O, in front of the Township of Saltfleet, during this season ending the 31st day of December 1880. Yours.

1, Alex: Rollo, Burlington Beach; "For to fish 1,500 yards of white fish gill nets, 5" inch mesh, extension measure, and 2,400 yards cisco gills, and Herring and Cisco gills nets," license fee to be, $8.00 c.

2, Daniel McGuyne & boy, do. — "For to fish 1,500 yards of White fish gill nets, 5" inch mesh extension measure, and 1,600 yards Herring and Cisco gill Nets", — license fee to be, $8.00 c.

3. Mrs Ann Sherbenal, Burlington Beach, "For to fish 1,800 yards of Herring and Cisco gill Net," license fee, to be $5. —

4, Richd Laaffer, Burlington Beach; "For to

fish 1000 yards of White fish gill nets. 5" inches extension measure, 1.000 yards Herring and lake gill nets, & 500 yards L. T. gill net, 6" inches mesh, extension measure, to be, $8.00.

5. Jonathan Toney, B. Beach. For to fish 1000 yards Herring and lake gill nets: license fee to be, $5.00.

The description of License, is herewith, and is submitted and recommended for your Consideration, and approval. — I have &c,

Hon. Minister, John Tilton
Ottawa. Ont.

Immediate, Hamilton, Monday.

My dear Hull, — Will you be pleased to meet me at Caledon East station, of the Hamilton, and North West Railway; say! about 10, o'clock, a.m. on thursday next, when the first Train from Hamilton, that morning, arrives there. —

Don't fail. — and with my best, and warm regards to you, My Hull, and family; believe me,

Yours fraternally,
John Tilton

Wellington Hull Esqre
"F. Grange,
Grim Village, Ont.,

Fishery Office,
Hamilton, Ont.
23. Augt 1880.

Monday, 23rd August 1880.

At Merrona, measured Paddy Maus, lb. J. gill nets found all regular. Joe Carpenter present. — Heard from Paddy Maud, that Dick Taaffe was fishing small piece 4½" inches, extension measure White fish gill nets. Paddy Caught 54 Wh: J. on that morning, went out at 5. a.m. Came in at 11.30. a.m. Paddy Maud paid me 7½ dollars because Joe, M. & B. 2.00. Breakfast 25. Miles 34

Sir,

21. August 1880,

I have the honor to send you, Bank draft No; 340. for the sum of Eight dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, for this Current year, as follows;

1. Mr John Peterman, of Port Colborne, — "For a license to fish a small Seine, in "Sugar Loaf Bay". — Lake Erie, which is in the Township of Humberstone, and County of Welland; — 3.00,

"No Seine fishing is permitted after 6. o'clock, p. m., on Saturday Night, nor before 6. o'clock, a. m, on the following Monday morning". —

2. Mrs Ann Sherbenal, B. Beach; For a Boat License, already applied for, &c. &c. 5.00,

Total $ 8.00

Hon: Minister; I Have, &c,

&c. &c. &c. :

John W Kerr

J. O.

Immediate, Hamilton, Monday.

My dear Hughson, Will you be pleased to meet me at Caledon East station, of the Hamilton and North west Railway; say; about 10. o'clock a. m, on thursday next; when the first Train from Hamilton, that morning, arrives there. —

Hoping all. — And with my best and warm regards to Mrs Hughson, your son and daughter believe me,

Yours Sincerely

John W Kerr J. O.

Andrew Hughson Esq, J. P.

Orangeville, Ont.

Hamilton Ont.

23. Augt 1880.

Stationery 20¢, 20¢ and 25¢, stamps 25¢

Tuesday, 24, August 1880.-

Gave B. Leach, delivered to Alex: Rollo, his license to fish file Hoks - amount $8, he paid me $5, I owed him, $2.95. — Gave Jonathan Losey his Boat license, fee $5.- Gave Richard Laffe his Boat license, fee $8, paid me $5. some time ago, he still owes $3. —

Gave Hav: McGuyne his Boat license, fee $8. still due; also informed Have Fitch, his Boat license fee was $8, Have paid me $5, a short time ago, he still owes $3. went out at 8. a. m. came in at 3. p. m. Miles 28. S&B. $2.00,

Called to see Mr Wm Gage on my return. —

Seen that Tom Joice, an another man was taking gravel from the Beach, to the Canal piers, also that H. W. Crosy, was getting stone out of the Lake in front of Stoney Creek pond, for the piers. —

Thursday, 26. August 1880. —

At Caledon East, met Mr Andrew Hughson, at Riverdale station; and got from all the information which I have embodied in my report about fence &c. in reply to Mr A. McKinnons Reeve of Caledon, and Mr A. Kirkwood, the Clerk, petition to the Hon; The Minister &c. &c. — went out at 5.30. a. m. came in at 6.30. p. m. Miles 120. My fare $3.90 dinner and Breakfast for two $1.00 c, H&B, $1.00. —

Sir.

27, August 1880,

I have the honor to receive from you, the (copy) petition of the Township Council of Caledon, in the County of Peel, signed, by the Reeve, Mr. H. McKinnon, and by the Clerk, Mr. David Kirkwood, both residents of the Village of Alton, setting forth; "That; Whereas Sub section 2, of section 14, of 31, Victoria, Chap: 60, gives the Minister power to exempt streams from the operations of this Sub section". - "Therefore your petitioner's pray, that you may be pleased to exempt the River Credit from the operation of the aforesaid Sub section". - "The public interest demanding such exemption throughout this section". -

With your instructions to me, to report thereon, to you . . -

And in obedience to your Order, I have the Honor to report for your information, and all Concerned. -

That Mr McKinnon, the Reeve of Caledon, herein referred to, is himself a Flour Mill owner, and proprietor in the Village of Alton, on that Branch of the River Credit, that takes its rise in Shaws Lake, a place so much famed for speckled Trout.

It was in his Mill pond, that Mr Sam Wilmot, Supt of the Fish Breeding Establishments, from Newcastle, Ontario, planted Salmon fry, and Salmon Eggs, a few years ago.

This Branch of the River Credit, altho almost depleted of Speckled trout, has under your protection picked up Considerably within a few years; so that great numbers are being now caught, this season: Since the Credit Valley, and the Hamilton and North Western Railroads, have been Constructed, and opened for traffic in that neighbourhood affording Anglers from the Cities of Toronto and Hamilton, the Towns and Villages, and local districts, ready, cheap, and easy access thereto. - - -

And as Mr McKinnon, Reeve; and Mr Kirkwood the Clerk, offers no just Cause, nor any Cause or reason whatever, except by quotation from the Sub

Section of the Fisheries Act, vizt, "The public interest demand=ing such exemption throughout this section" which I am personally aware is not true nor Correct; - I do not see any Cause or reason on my part, why the prayer of the petition should be granted or acceded to by you. - And without some specific reasons, from that set forth being given by the Reeve, and the Clerk of the Township in behalf of the Council; and perhaps misrepresented, as for the people of Caledon; Nothing now remains for me, after due enquiries made, by me, &c. but report against the prayer of the petition, being granted by you, and this I strongly do. - -

In doing this, I will here take the liberty of giving you, my reasons in the premises, which I submit for your Consideration. -

Mr. D. McKinnon, it appears, has been the Reeve of Cal=edon, for some years past, and during his Reeveship, he has paid $198, as I was informed by Andrew Hughson the local fishery Officer, Orangeville, in Township funds, for cleaning out, this Branch of the River Credit, on which his own Flour Mill is built on, and run by the waters thereof, and is situated. -

Saw dust, Mill rubbish, and logs of wood, having accumulated therein, below Lessons Saw Mill, but above McKinnons Flour Mill, on this stream; this Reeve, and the Council of Caledon, did in their official capacity, at a more recent date, than this petition; the public interest, the people and the community demanding it, expended $198, to free the said stream from saw dust &c, &c. And why they act now in a different way, &c. without giving any reason, remains for you to be the Judge. - For my part, as I know Mr McKinnon since he built his Flour Mill, Several years ago, I must Candidly Confess

and say, I expected something diffrent from him.. --

Then what I may suppose has led Mr D. McKinnon, the Reeve "I will here omit the Clerk, and the rest of the Council, from participating"—to arrive so hastilly, at his sweeping petition to you, was this!.--

1st. Mr Lesson, Saw Mill owner, was fined 10/, and costs, on his own admission, on the 16th of July last, on the complaint, of Andrew Stughson, the local fishery officer, for permitting Saw dust to enter the said Branch of River Credit, as aforesaid, &c, which he has not paid yet.—

2nd. Mr Henry Scott, and his brother, who own a saw Mill on the North Branch of the River Credit, that rises near the Town of Georgeville.-- They live at a place called Millville, where the Saw Mill is situated; their sawing Capacity per day is about 2,000 feet, b.m,.--

In the early part of this month, before the date of this petition; Henry Scott, one of the proprietors was summoned up before W. F. Pattelo Esqre J.P. of Caledon, for allowing Saw dust, to enter this Creek, &c. by the Local fishery Overseer, Mr Andrew Stughson.--

Mr D. McKinnon, this Reeve, who is only a Magistrate by right of his office, during the Reeveship, when he swears in, went to this trial, and sat on the Case in behalf of Mr Henry Scott, the defendant.-- And Mr McKinnon stated, (but too soon) on hearing the evidence of a witness, Wm Marshall, who proved, that he saw the Saw dust enter the stream, that the local officer had no case; as the witness did not prove that there was speckled trout in the stream.-- Mr Stughson was then sworn, and he proved, that there was Spa trout in the stream and abundance of them.--

Henry Scott, the defendant, and another witness was then produced, and sworn for the defence, by the Reeve, and they admitted the offence was.

committed, and that there was speckled trout in this branch of the River Credit. --

In reference to this Branch of the River Credit, I have now the honor to report, that within a few years, the Corporation of the Town of Orangeville gave $100, which was supplemented by $50, more, as subscription And saw dust, &c. &c, in this Branch, was then cleaned out, and logs, &c. &c, taken therefrom, And Mr McKinnon, the Reeve, knows all this! — and that Scotts Saw Mill is situated thereon. —

I may here also, introduce to your Notice, a new feature in the Case; Mr Patterson, wanted the local officer, to prove when under examination, the amount of damage done to the fish, by Scott, allowing the saw dust to enter the Creek; of course the officer declined to answer the question. —

And then the Magistrate (Patello and McKinnon) called on Henry Scott, the defendant, to show the amount it had cost him for Machinery for his Mill, and for other things irrelevant to the case: as I was since informed by Mr Andrew Hughson, the local officer. —

The Magistrates then announced that they would reserve Judgement, until the 1st of October next; — and hence; since this trial, the petition herein alluded to, has been sent to, The Hon The Minister of Marine and Fisheries Ottawa; still no allusion was made to this trial therein. - -

Mr McKinnon, at the trial, expressed himself publicly, in the Magistrate Court, that he would not give 10¢, for all the fish in the River Credit, from one end to the other. —

And he further said, he did not appreciate, the Acts of the Government, in connection with the Fisheries. - -

All of which, is respectfully submitted, for your consideration, adoption, or rejection.— And with due respect,

The Honble
The Minister
&c, &c, &c.

I Have &c,
John W. Kerr
J.P.,

P.S. The cases (2) are the only ones complained of, in Caledon, during this year, so far, you may perceive, the active duties of the local officer is not oppressive.—

J. W. Kerr
J.P.,

Sir,

28, August 1880.—

With reference to my report of 27th instant, on the petition of Mr. H. McKinnon, Reeve of Caledon; you will please find the following sentence of mine; "I may here also introduce to your Notice a new feature in the case; Mr. Patella wanted the local officer, to prove, when under examination, the amount of damage done to the fish, by Scott, allowing the saw dust to enter the Creek??.— Of course the officer declined to answer the question??.— I may in continuation report that on this day, I received a letter from Mr. Hughson, fishery Overseer, enclosing me something of a similar nature, which explains itself and the side, this Magistrate's leanings are.—

Copy. Caledon, July. 23rd 1880.—

Mr. Hughson,— please fill out summonses for witness, as I do not know where he lives.— I regret having this complaint, as well as others of the same nature.— As I am always at a loss to know the amount of damage is done. if I could see something satisfactory, that saw dust does militate against the health of fish, perhaps I would enter more heartily in enforcing the laws in this respect.

J. Feely, W. F. Patella, J.P.

The Honble
The Minister
&c, &c, &c.

I Have &c,
John W. Kerr J.P.

My dear Sir, 30. August 1880.

I am in receipt of your favour of 25th instant, wishing to know if I should want any person to watch the parent Salmon in the Range and the Stilaud Creek, during the spawning season next fall.- In reply I do think so!. Answer by return mail. -

Do you want the place, if so! and you have leisure time, to attend to it, I will buy and get it for you. --

Have you heard of any person killing or spearing or Netting Salmon last fall, and who?- or have you ever been able to find out, who the persons were, that frequented the mouth of Duffin's Creek, and if any Salmon were seen in the Stilaud Creek, and the Range last fall.. My kind regards to Mrs Crandall and family.. Mr D. Crandal, Yours truly

Stilaud Creek, P. Office, John Wilkes, J.P.

My dear Mr Ramsey.-

Stow is fishing?- I presume Constant East wind, ought to make your take, very large this season; Mr Whitaker, the Commissioner, I expect will be shortly writing, to enquire about the $100, balance of Lic fee..

Stow is Herbert, and his little Sister, give my warm regards to Herbert.

And please remember me kindly to Mrs Ramsey, and accept yourself my warm regards, and respects. - And believe me, as usual

J. Wesley Ramsey Esq Yours Sincerely

Box No: 40, John Wilkes J.P.

Ridgeway P. Office, Ont.

Marked, Mr John Peterman's License to him, this day, at Port Colborne, Ontario, 31, August 1880.

My dear Sir, 1st September 1880.-

I am in receipt of your note of 29th ultimo complaining of One John Biederman, for fishing for Bass, and packed with a drawn net, or Seine, in Lake Erie about 2½, Miles west of Port Colborne.-

If you will kindly give me the Name of the witness and date when the fishing complained of; I will go up there myself and fine him, and will take the Seine, and Confiscate it.- "She must be dutch".

However! I may here state for your information, that a Seine license, was recently issued to John Petterman, to fish in Sugar Loaf Bay, Lake Erie; and perhaps he is the same person you refer to.

If he fished, and it was through the action taken by your client, that he was forced to apply for a Seine license I will fine him.-

"Fishing by means of Nets, except under license, is prohibited in all the waters of Ontario".-

"Seine fishing after 6, o'clock, p.m, on every Saturday night and before 6, o'clock, a.m, on the following monday morning is prohibited"- and there is a clause to this effect, in John Peterman's license.- please answer immediately and dont apprise any one of my coming up.-

and believe me, Yours Fraternally,

John W. Kerr, J.P.,

1st Sep: 1880,

Mr Van Homan Esqe
Barrister at Law
&, &, &,
Welland, Ontario

Mailed letter to Jas: Cantwell, this day.
1st Sep: J W Kerr

Sir, 3rd September 1880.

I have the honor to report for your information, that at this present time a Joint stock Company, is engaged building a stone and gravel Road from the City of Hamilton to Burlington Beach, on Lake Ontario.--

The Road bed is composed of large stone in the bottom, then over this, 6" inches of Machine broken stone; and then over all, the Company require to put a layer or Course of Coarse gravel.---

I submit for your consideration, an application from Mr Brunner, the Company's Secretary for permission to go on B. Beach, and take from the Fishery Reserve, be there, on Lake Ontario, side of said Beach, about 150 loads of coarse gravel, for to finish up the Road bed.--

To take so much gravel therefrom, spread over the extent of say about a mile, will do the Seine hauling grounds no harm whatever, so long as the persons taking it, abstain from sinking holes; they can go along the beach, and shovel up their loads, and at the same time avoid making holes; or injuring the Fisheries or anoying the fishermen.- I have much pleasure in attaching the application, and I recommend that you will be pleased to grant the permission asked for.

The Company are composed of J. M. Lottridge Brewer, St. L. Bauer, Brewer, and Alfred Carpenter of Hamilton, and Wm and Andrew Gage Esqrs of Barton.

Hon: Minister,

I Have, &c.

&, &, &c.,

John W Kerr

F. O.

Private, and Confidential..

My dear Gabriel. – I am in receipt of your Note, acquainting me, of the serious loss, you have had inflicted upon you, by some Malicious person or persons whom you say; cut away, and let loose your Machine, &c..–

You do not say, whether the Machine was in the River, fishing, or upon the Bank.. And while you allude to Dave Herron, and John Wadsworth's Machines, being not disturbed! you dont say any more about them!. When you found the Machine was gone, did you examine about, for marks, or did you find anything suspicious; I made up my mind, never to allow John Wadsworth, or Dave Herron, to fish their Machines again; and I wrote John —— to this effect, see on the back, and as for Dave — I sent his money $3. back to Mr James Wynne, to be given back to him.–

Now you must be careful, and except to me, J Wynne Esq. or Harry Sheppard, your friends, dont tell your suspicions to any one.– I will come down special about Wednesday next, and investigate the matter.– If I do come I will leave here, by the 6. o'clock, a.m. Train, from here so any thing that you hear, or find out, tell Joe, to make a written memorandum of it, so that after I get there, I may have full details, to make a report to the Fisheries department, Ottawa.–

If nothing happens you may expect me, as above.– And then I can come down from the Bridge, to your Station by the Niagara Train.– Have you examined or searched the River.– Remember me Kindly to Mr Sheppard, Joe and his wife, and with Kind regards to you, believe me,

Hamilton,
3. August 1880.

Yrs Sincerely
John H. Kerr F.C.

My dear Sir. -- Hamilton, Ontario,

Your application, for a License to fish a Pound Net, in Lake Ontario, between the 16, Mile pond, and the 20, Mile pond, is just received; and in which you say; that, Mr Ramney has been with you, and made arrangements for you to fish the pound. -

How all you say, is very good in itself, but I have no authority whatever to grant you, nor any other man, a pound Net License. --

And until the application is just received, and granted by the F, department, at Ottawa; dont you attempt to go into any such fishing arrangement, for I can not tell at this present moment; whether such permission will be granted or not. - My own impression is, it will not be granted. - - -

If granted, the License Money, must be paid down before fishing is commenced; I want the length of your main lead, whether single or double header and then the application must be a joint one made by you Ramney, and boy, - signed by each of you.

There is no excuse in you talking about so late in the season, while peddlers about Grimsby and Merona have been circulating stories about your pound Net for 3, Months back. - -

There is a good deal more to be said and done, before a License can be obtained, and until you get the license just, firm in your hand, dont attempt to think of fishing a pound Net. -

Mr Ric; Gilbert, Yours truly,
Fisherman. J W Kerr D.O.
Jordan Station, 4. Sep: 1880.

My dear Dick, — private,

If Convenient, come up here and let you & I, talk this matter over. Come on Monday. — Yours J.W. Kerr F.O.

4. Sep: 1880.—

Jas: J. Wilcox Esqre
F. Overseer,
Port Credit. —

My dear Wilcox,

Yours of 3rd instant received, As regards Billy Ward, it is all right; and as himself and father pay $20. a year, for fishing file, Nets.—

I am glad to hear from you, that you been attending to your duties up the Credit; be as attentive this fall, as you possibly can; try, and see some of the Salmon yourself; you, nor I, can never place much confidence in what such a person as you, Name, tell about Salmon.—

I was up the River Credit, on the 26th of August, last, as far as Caledon East.— The Reeve and Council of Caledon, petitioned the Honble The Minister, to have the several Branches of the River Credit, exempt from the provisions of Sub section 2, of Section 14, of the Fisheries Act.— I made my visit, examination; and saw the Overseer, Mr Andrew Hughson, of Orangeville, and on my return sent in my report. — "Against the petition".—

Now I will tell you, what I want you to do this fall or as soon as Convenient, before hard weather sets in!.—

Go up as far as Normal; and examine the River Credit, from there, down to Pt Credit; Make a Note of the Saw Mills, Flour Mills, The Mill dams, Waste Gates, Sluice Ways, Flumes, &c,— Names of Owners, and the Name of the place where each Mill is situated, and if they are working at present. I do not know how soon, or when such infn may be asked for, and so, I desire to be in a position, to answer it.— With Kind regards,

6. Sep: 1880.

Yours Sincerely,
J.W. Kerr F. Overseer,

P.S. I understand, that Eel Boxes, are being at present fished in Niles Creek, look out for them, and destroy them.

6. Sept. 1880. Yo. H. J. Walker J.P.

Note! — To Mr Morse, fishing — answer!

J. W. Walker J.P.

Wednesday, 8. September 1880.—

At S. Bridge, Queenston and Niagara, made enquiries at Queenston, respecting Jos: Gabriels, fishing Machine, sent away on Sunday night, 29. Augt 1880. as per my report, "hereafter" went out at 5. a.m. Came in at 4. p.m. Miles 60. Ry fare $2.50¢, Horse and Buggy $1.25¢ Breakfast, dinner, Tea, and bed $1.00¢; fishing ceased, in Consequence of the storm; but fishermen, well pleased with their take and Catch, followed the White fish, up as far as the Eight Mile Creek.— Saw Mr Blench; — — Mr Thos: Elliot, was with me.—

Thursday, 9. September 1880.—

At Niagara, the Ten Mile Creek, St Catherines, and home, went out at 8.30. a.m. came in at 4.30. p.m. Miles 50. Horse and Buggy $2.50¢, breakfast and dinner $5¢.— Buss $15¢, received $5. from Mr Thomas Reid, for hence fee, for 1880.— — —

Friday 10. September 1880.—

On B. Beach, found James Prentice, No: 20. Elgin st, Hamilton, taking building sand within 66' feet, fishery reserve; heard from Dick Sage, that fish caught in fill Nets, during the late heavy blow, and found dead, and decaying — were thrown back into the Lake to pollute the Water, &c, I saw Mr Corey, and spoke to him about his last years rent, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 3.30. p.m. Miles 26. Horse and Buggy $2.50¢.

Sir,

13. September 1880.

I have the Honor to report, that I consider it advisable that I should make a thorough, close, and careful examination and inspection of my entire division, and of all the saw Mills, Mill dams, Mill ponds, Factories, Speckled Trout streams, Salmon Creeks; and the Lakes, and River fisheries; and if you approve; I would require an advance of about $, for to commence and complete the work. –

I perceive by the Hamilton Spectator, that Mr A. McKinnon, Milliner, Alton, Caledon; per my report of 27th of August last, thus;

I Have &c,
John W Kerr F.O.

The Honble
&c, &c, &c,

Sir,

20. September 1880.

I Have the honor to report, that an application has been made to me, by Mr Jonathan Harris, Secretary of the Agricultural Association of South Wentworth, for to procure some live fish, and place them in the pond of the Crystal palace grounds Fountain, during the Provincial show, to be held here this week and next, when the Governor General is expected to ~~&c~~ open the Exhibition on Friday next, 24th instant. –

I have agreed to procure the fish, and place them in the Fountain pond, which I can do by the aid of my small Hoop Net, either in "Fages Inlet", or in "Big Creek", Burlington bay, with no expense to the department, – But I require your sanction and consent, so as to prevent and stop mischievous people from talking about it. –

The Honble
The Minister,
&c. &c. &c.

I Have &c
John W Kerr
F.O.

Sir,

13. September 1880. –

I have to report for your information, that on Sunday night, the 29th day of August last, between 12. and 1. o'clock, a fishing Machine, under license, at Queenston, to be fished there, in the Niagara River, by Mr Joseph Gabriel Sr was maliciously, and wilfully, destroyed, and cut away, from the Moorings, and Anchorage, and sent a float, down the Niagara River; by – "as there is every reason to suspect," Chester Wadsworth, son of John Wadsworth, a fisherman of Queenston. – "There is a great many incidents, that would lead me, and others to suspect, that Young Wadsworth, is the guilty person; however, there must have been two persons engaged in committing this Malicious injury, and damage of such a wilful nature; the Machine, and Anchors, and guys, "of chains and twisted wire ropes", of value, were all sent a float, with the Machine. –

"The Machine, &c. was valued at about $200, and the loss; will be about $50. more; loss in consequence of depriving him, Mr Gabriel, of fishing, and damages consequent thereto, besides a New Machine. –

I was at Queenston, on last Wednesday, and after a careful enquiry, made by me; I have no doubt, upon my mind; but that Chester Wadsworth, aided by some other person, committed this outrage; and I am in hopes to be able to find it all out soon.

I would respectfully recommend, if you approve that a reward of $50. be offered, for giving such evidence, as will lead to a Conviction.

The Honble,
The Minister,
&c. &c. &c.

I Have &c,
John W. Kerr,
F. O.

Sir,

13. September 1880.-

I have the Honor, to report for your information, and I feel much pleasure in doing so;- "That good sized; marketable White fish, are more numerous this season, in my division of Lake Ontario, between the Town of Niagara, and Whitby Harbour; than they have been, during the previous 15 years".---

The fishermen, are all highly pleased at their good luck, while the public have had abundance of cheap, good, sound, nutritious and healthy fish food, Cater'd both for Towns, Vil= lages, Cities, and rural districts, besides large quantities, have been shipped into the State of New York, United States....

I may here draw your personal attention to a matter that requires a strict public printed, Notice, with a remonstrance, from the "Fisheries department, Ottawa...

Recently! we have been visited by stormy weather, the Consequence was, the Gill Net fishermen, could not get out, to fish up; and when the weather moderated, and they did get out, and fished up; they fish were dead, decaying, spoiled and rotten; when taken from the Gill Nets, on the fishing grounds, out Miles in Lake Ontario; and were thrown back again, by the "Fishermen, as I have heard, to pollute the waters, instead of being taken on shore, and buried, or made manure of. —

Please read section 14, and sub section 2, of sec= tion 14, of the Fisheries Act.- One Hundred Copies, (printed) will be sufficient for all time to come. —

The Hon:
The Minister,
&c, &c, &c,

I Have &c,
John W Kerr
J.P.

My dear Sir,

Your's of the 13th instant received. – I will remain at home on Monday next, so that I may see you. – And if I was made aware by you, the Train you would come into Hamilton by, I will be there to meet you.

I live 3 Miles away from the Railway station here. –

Yours truly,
J. W. Kerr J.P.,
Hamilton, Ont.

Mr David Crandal,
Milan Creek. Ont.

16. Sep: 1880.

Wednesday, 15. September 1880. —

At Minona, and B. Beach; heard J. H. Corey and Maurice Corey, were taking Gravel off the Beach, near and in front of Col: Villiers place, with a Scow, for the B. Canal piers. – Also heard that Wood and Leggat, had sent for 10 pounds of thread for Maurice-Corey; – and also that Sam: Corey, was fishing file Nets of his own in Dick Gages Boat. – went out at 4. a.m. came in at 3.30. p.m. Miles 32. H&B. 2.50. Express charges 85¢; Telegraph 24¢ Paid 15¢, Paper 15¢

Friday, 17. September 1880. —

On B. beach, making enquiries about taking Gravel off Fishery Reserve, see my report, went out at 9. a.m. came in at 6. p.m. Miles 30. Went round by Heights and the Planes, H&B. 2.00, C. J. Kerr off 1. dinner for two 50¢, Tolls 10¢,

Sir,

18. September 1880.-

I have the honor to report for your information, that during the summer, Messrs. Hendrie & Hoy, contractors, have been engaged under contract, with the Dominion Government Board of Works, at Ottawa, in rebuilding the Piers of Burlington canal, on Burlington Beach,.- "According to the specification herewith; the contractor may use coarse gravel or shingle, such as can be obtained 2½ miles of the place".- There is no place except the Fishery Reserve of 66' feet, south side of the canal, or off North at Wellington square, on the Lake side of B. Beach; where such material as is required can be procured, and I should suppose that except under the permission of The Hon.ble The Minister, &c, &c, and the Fisheries department, Ottawa; no person can go on this fishery Reserve of 66' feet, and take therefrom, away, scow loads of gravel; they must have first obtained your sanction and permission in the premises.-

Now with regard the specification under head of "Ballast or filling"- the wording is carefully done, and may be construed as not to mean the fishery reserve; but still there is no other place within 2½ miles, where such materials can be procured.- The consequence is, that F. N. Cory, Marie Corey, and Henry Podkins, fishermen, have been supplying the contractors, and the work, with gravel, which they have been taking off, the fishery reserve, say at the rate of about 6$ per day, in wages.-

"This has been done, and carried on, without any reference being made to me whatever, or perhaps even to you.- I am ignored, and I presume so are you, by these fishermen.-

Other persons, supply stone, and gravel, for the canal works, which they procure on the beach and in the Lake, east of Wellington square, where there is no Seine fishing being carried on.- There is no objection to the contractors being supplied from there.-

I dont approve of F. N. Coney, &c, &c, nor any other man, exercising such liberties, in taking gravel without your sanction and approval, and I hope you will be pleased to ~~make~~ mark your disapprobation of the same, and make it known to Coney, &c, through me officially. —

Complaint was made to me as against F. N. Coney, &c. when I went on B. beach, saw Coney, and enquired about it; I saw Mr W. J. Douglas, Hendrie & Co's Agent there, in charge of the works, with whom I talked on the subject, when I was referred by him to the specification, a copy of which I was then and there supplied with for you, by Mr Thos. Campbell, the L. St. Keeper. —

There does not appear, any authority whatever on the face of this specification to authorize and empower the Contractor, or any one else, to go and take gravel off the Fishery Reserve on B. Beach. —

Mr John Page, Chief Engineer, Public Works, may have intended it, but the specification does not say he did; and the words I have marked on the specification would not convict Mr Page, if he was accused of giving the Contractors leave to take gravel from the Fishery reserve on B. Beach. — —

Mr Douglas, would like to get more gravel, to complete the piers, as the Wood work progresses, but this is a matter altogether for you to determine. —

I dont consider, F. N. Coney, is entitled to any further indulgence, because he has already gone over B. Beach, just as if he was permitted by you, to do so. —

I Have &c.

John W Carr
J.P.

The Honble
The Minister
&c &c &c

Sir,

20. September 1880.—

I have the honor to apply to you, for a Boat License, for Mr Thomas Reid, of Grantham; "For to fish 600. yards of White fish gill nets of legal size meshes, in Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Grantham, during this current season, the fee is to be of 5.—

Also a Boat license, for Mr Mortimer Corey, of B. Beach, for to fish 600 yards of Herring gill nets, in Lake Ontario, off B. beach, during this current season, the license fee, to be the same; and the meshes of gill nets to be 2½", inches, extension measure.—

Also be pleased to fill up those in other respects in the same way; you have filled the other Boat licenses, already issued for the other B. Beach fishermen. I recommend the same.—

The Honble
The Minister
&c. &c. &c.

I Have, &c,
John Vickers,
J.O.

Sir,

20. September 1880.

I have the Honor, to refer you, to my letter, of the 21st day of April last, together with the petition of this Honor, Judge Miller, Sheriff McKindsey, and other gentlemen, resident in the Town of Milton, in the County of Halton, and my division.—

And in which I then recommended, that the prayer of the petitioners may be granted.—

Having never had any reply to this report, &c, I now beg most respectfully to draw your attention to it, as a matter I would strongly recommend as worthy of your immediate and favorable Consideration.— please grant the prayer of the petition.—

The Honble
The Minister,
&c. &c. &c.

I Have &c.
John Vickers,
J.O.

My dear Mr Gabriel,

I recommended in my report of your serious and great loss of Machine, &c, to The Honble The Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa; That a Reward of $50. be offered for information that would lead to conviction of persons guilty. —

In reply, I received the following, a copy is sent for your information. — —

Copy.

"The suggestion made in your letter of 13th instant, about offering a reward of $50.00 towards the Conviction of the parties who destroyed Joseph Gabriel's fishing Machine, cannot be carried out; the Department having no funds at its disposal for such a purpose". "There is no objection however, for you giving the man every possible assistance which may lead him, to discover the guilty parties". —

Such being the reply to my report, I may now advise you, to do all in your power to find out such information as will lead to Conviction, and whenever you do, Command my Services. —

Has Joe made any further enquiries and why did he not write me, as he promised me he would,

Yrs Sincerely
J. W. Flavelle Jr. a

20. Sept: 1880,

Mr Jos: Gabriel
Fisherman
Queenston,

Confidential, and private!.

My dear Tom,

The last day I saw you at the Canal, and after I left there, I was informed that F. N. Carey, or one of his Crew on the scow, had been telling how they cheated you, out of nearly a third, "1/3rd of every scow load", they delivered on the works.

Of course I myself, know nothing beyond what I above quote for your own ears, as above. —

On looking closely into the specification. — I find there is no permission whatever given to the Contractor, to obtain under the head of "Ballast or filling" — gravel from the Fishery Reserve on B. Beach. — I have reported the matter to the Fisheries dept Ottawa, and I sent the specification there. — —

I asked the department, that permission be given the Contractor to get the gravel. — It is rather strange however, that an application was never made for it to the Fisheries department, who alone have all power and Control over it. —

Perhaps if you measure another scow load of gravel, you will find how matters stand, and for the matter of that, every future scow load of gravel, might require to be measured. —

When my report is answered, I will show it to you, Keep your eyes open, for if they can cheat you, they will, and tell afterward, how they done it,

Yours Sincerely
J. W. Kerr, F. O.
20. Sep: 1880.

Thos: S. Bell Esqre
Civil Engineer
Hamilton.

P. S.

I sent the specification with my Report.
J. W. Kerr

My dear Sir,

Yours received, I am glad to hear you are all well. — It will be time enough for some time to come to talk about filling up your returns, 3 Months at least. —

Give my respects to Mrs Pollock, and believe me, as usual,

Yours Sincerely

J W Kerr. F.O.

W. A. Pollock Esqre M.D.
F. Queen,
Bronte.

Private,

P.S. The Commissioner will be up here, about the Middle of October, Yours Faithfully,

J W Kerr,

Monday. 20. September 1880. —

Not Counted in

On B. bay. at the Village, making enquiries about fishing, thence to B. Beach, — set out Hoop Net, for to catch fish for the fountain pond in Exhibition grounds, got Duncan McFillivray to watch the Net for me, went out at 4. p. m. came in at 7. 30. p. m. Miles 20. H and B — 2.00 H ct, C. J. Kerr. H cff 1. —

Tuesday. 21. September 1880.

Not Counted in.

at B. Beach, thence to the Show grounds, got about 120. fish in the Trap Net, found Duncan at his post, went out at 4. a. m. came in at 11. a. m. H & B. 2.00 H ct. Breakfast for two 70 ct, Dolly 3 cf C. J. Kerr H with me,

This day. wrote Mr Whitcher

J W Kerr

Private,

My dear Joe, — I am just in receipt of your letter, and I thank you for the information it contains; however, you will please find out, and let me know who was with Chester, at the Big Eddie, on Sunday 29th August, before your Fathers Machine was cut away; who did Chester tell in Lewiston, that the parties who let your Fathers Machine go, intended to let the New Machine he is now making, go also. —

Who will prove, that John Wadsworth's Machine, was fished by Chester, and Wm Stone, on sunday 29th of August last, let me have Names. —

Winfield Scott, is a reliable good witness, find out if Wm Stone was in Lewiston, with Chester, on Sunday 29th of August, and upon no account tell any person, what you have already, or will tell me hereafter, that you may hear, or find out, bearing on the Case. —

As soon as things die away, quiet down, and all suspicions are passed, I will appoint a Sunday, when you, and I will go in ambush at early morning, and Catch those Sabbath breakers. — I write your father, on yesterday, and with Kind regards, — Yours Truly

J. W. Sloan J. P.

21. Sep: 1880.

Mr Jas: Sabiel Jr.,
Fisherman,
Lewiston. —

Postage stamps 25¢

Stationery 25¢

Express private 85¢

" " 85.

"Private."

Hamilton, Ont.
Mar 3rd

My dear Hull. -

I am in receipt of yours of the 18th inst. I felt disappointment, when I arrived at Caledon East, and I did not find you there. - Andrew Hughson, Jr. Overseer, Orangeville met me at Riversdale Junction, and I transacted the business I had up there; with his aid. -

Mr David McLellan, Reeve of Caledon, and the Clerk, Mr David Kirkwood, of Alton; petitioned the Hon. The Hon: The Minister, to exempt the River Credit, in the township of Caledon, from the provision of sub section 2, of section 14, of the Fisheries Act. - "As a matter of fact, I reported against it." -

I purpose coming up, and getting you to run over the speckled trout streams of your division, during the spawning season, so that I may be able to see, make my Notes, and embody the same in my "Annual Report" As I will take a wide circuit of the outward bounds of my division, you and Hughson may expect me up there, in close season, you will have to send me word in November, When close season is in. ! -

With respect to your large division, I am sure there will be no objection to your charging legitimate expenses, whenever you are actively engaged on duty, - but as you need not put in, nor prepare such an account, until the end of the year, why! it is now premature to say any more about it. - I will see you some time before then, and show you how it must be done. I am glad to hear that speckled Trout, are so very plentiful,

3

in your division. --

I am very much obliged to Mrs Hall for her kind remembrance of me, please convey to her my warm regards, and kind respects, and believe me

My dear Hall,

Wellington Hall Esqre
J.P. Overseer,
Ekin Village. —

Yrs fraternally
J W Kerr
J.P., 24. Sep: 1880.

P.S. Your letter of the 18th instant, sent by you to The Honble The Minister, &c, &c, Ottawa, has been transferred to me for disposal, by the departure to Ottawa, I will write you thereon in a few days, on Saturday Dont write again, any more to Ottawa, until you receive my letter disposing of your last, and believe me,

Yrs &c,
J W Kerr J.P.

Remember me kindly to my old friend your Magistrate in Ekin Village, J W Kerr

Tuesday. 28. September 1880. -

At Grimsby, found everything all correct, saw Mr John Hand, found that fill Net fishing had been very good, saw Paddy Hand; - both fishermen had their gill nets set out, morning very wet, went out at 6. a. m. came in 2.20. p. m, miles 40. Hand Buggy $2.50, Tolls 10¢

Telegraph 44¢ Telegraphs 50¢

Wellington Stull Esqre.
P.S. Overseer. —
Erie Village, Ontario.

24, September 1880. —

Sir, your letter, dated Erie 18th inst, sent by you, to The Honble The Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa; "a copy herewith," urging greater protection to speckled trout, in Rivers Credit &c, has been transferred to me by the Fisheries department, Ottawa, for disposal. —

And with a Memorandum thereon; thus! "Please tell Stull, to transact all his little business thro' you." —

In obedience to the instruction I have just received in this case, I may inform you, that it is not necessary to communicate to the department, anything about the increase, and the great take and Catch of speckled trout, until the end of this year, and this you will please do then, thro' me, as per Order as above.. The more speckled trout caught legally, so much the better, as it all redounds to your Credit, and advantage. — Make correct Notes of all the quantities of speckled trout, that have been caught by anglers during this year, "for me," all over your division, and I shall give you all the credit that is your due for it. —

You have nothing whatever to say, or do with property owners, or their titles. — Your duty is to see that the Fisheries Act, rules and regulations, are duly observed; and whenever Contraventions of the Act, &c. are committed, you are instantly to enforce the law, by fining the Offenders. — —

Give property Owners no advice whatever, as regards the Banks of the Rivers, that is a matter, that does not Concern you nor I. — Saw dust, Mill rubbish, &c. &c, and the protection of the fish, speckled trout, are objects always before our eyes, and to them our undivided attention, must be given. — fishing on Sunday, is never permitted, nor is fishing during close season permitted. close season for speckled trout is from 15, Sep: to 1st May,

Now as regards the suggestion, that a license should be imposed by the fishing department, upon anglers, for speckled trout, - such a tax, would be perfectly absurd!. It would never work, "except ill will on the department", to do such a thing would be monstrous. "Just ponder over this small business yourself;" It is right and proper to make foreigners pay, when they intrude on our large Domain; but our own people must be free, having all things in common, one with another. - They have only to obey the Law, there is nothing more required of them. - What a pleasing thing it was, for that one man you allude to ~~to catch~~ 200, speckled trout, in one day, how much pleased he must have been at his good luck; and no license.

And so, I have now disposed of your letter, and I am convinced you will yourself say, on reflection, it is all quite satisfactory. - Yours truly,

J W Kerr Y.O.

P.S. and private! -

It will be necessary for you, during this mild weather, to take an occasional run around, in suspicious places, so as to Nab any person, that may be angling for trout. I will recommend you for a rise in your salary, when I see what you have been doing. - -

One thing, however! you may be assured of. I shall endeavour, and hope to be able to get you, your travelling expenses for this year, provided you have day, and dates, and amounts, And with kind regards to Mrs Hulle, and my fraternally, and Brotherly salutation to you individually, Believe me, Yours &c.

J W Kerr Y.O.

Sir,

23. Sep: 1880.

I have the honor to receive your reply to my report of the 18th instant, in which "I have made remarks to you about the Contractors for repairs to the side piers, in B. Bay Canal, on Burlington Beach, helping themselves with gravel from the fishery Reserve there". —

In reply, I beg to report, that I have no objection whatever, to the Contractors doing so. — But as in fishing with Nets, &c, so it should be, and as it has been with all former applicants for sand and gravel; in the taking of the gravel and sand, in the present case, off a fishery reserve: — "Except under license and leave from the department of fisheries it should be prohibited on all Seine hauling licensed grounds". Instance B. Beach. —

You are pleased to say, "Explain what difference it can make, whether the work is done by Corey, or any other man. —

I have the honor to explain, that it does not signify, who takes the gravel, whether it is Corey or any other man; — provided it is carefully done and with your permission. — Of course I have not stopped them, I cautioned Corey not to make holes in the reserve. —

Your sanction and permission, you may take my word for it, is always best, as well as necessary in every such case. — If only to shew those people there is some one above them, they must apply to. —

I Have &c,

John W Kerr
F.O.

Hon: Minister,
&c, &c, &c,

Sir,

1. October 1880.-

I have the honor to submit herewith, for your personal consideration and approbation; account and diary of my actual disbursements for travel, and petty expenses incurred by me, while employed on active duty, during the quarter ending 30th day of September 1880, amounting to, $ 51.70.

Add.	J. W. Kerr.	For Stationery,	Voucher,	No: 1. -		2.40.
"	do. -	" Telegraphs, -	"	"	2. -	1.33.
"	do.	" Postages, -	"	"	3. -	1.25.
"	do.	" Office Rent, -	"	"	4. -	5.00.
"	do.	" A Survey, -	"	"	5. -	8.00.
"	E. J. Kerr,	" Boatman, -	"	"	6. -	6.00.

Total, $ 75.68

In submitting this account, &c, I beg to report, that I found it only necessary for to travel 724 Miles, while incurring the expenses herein set forth. --
At the same time I may state for your satisfaction it was absolutely required that I should do this.

And with due respect

I have &c,

The Honble
The Minister
&c. &c. &c.

John W Kerr
D. O.

Sunday. 3. October 1880. -

At S: Bridge, and Queenston, thence to Niagara. - Met James Sheppard at S: Br: went on to Queenston Heights, and down the declivity, to about 15 yards of the N. River, remained there from 9. a. m. until 7.30. p. m. in Ambush, watching to find out if Chester Wadsworth, was fishing on Sunday, as was represented to me. - Jim Sheppard with me all the time. - At 2.30. p. m. heard a Boat. looked out, and saw Chester, therein, and Jim Wynne and wife, standing close by on the Rock near the Boat. - Soon after he rowed up to the

Private and Confidential. — 1. October 1880.

My dear Sir,

I want to get to Queenston next Sunday morning, but I do not wish that any one there, should know I am coming there. —

What I propose doing, is this! I will leave Hamilton, by the 6. a. m. Train, on Sunday morning next, and you can meet me at the Bridge, at 7. 10. a. m, when the Train arrives there. — What say you to this! Come to the Bridge but dont tell a soul where you are going to. I enclose you $2,

Yours Fraternally,
John McKerr
F. O.

Mr James Sheppard Jr.,
Queenston. C

Private.

My dear Mr Wynne,

Will you be so good, as to send the enclosed Note, to Mr Jas: Sheppard Jr who lives near the Niagara Road, a little above Mr Jas: Gabriels, and please dont say tell any body whatever about it.

Yours Sincerely
J McKerr F. O.
1. Oct: 1880.

Jas: Wynne Esqr
Q. C. M. P.
Queenston. C

Machine, anchored his Boat, and remained there until after dark, and then rowed away down the River — altho' he did not fish, he went next door to it, for he handled a spear, handled the lock of the Machine, and whistled and sang, and looked round on the Alert, but never moved the Machine. — Jim Sheppard left about 5. 30 p. m

for the Woods, and took home his Horse and Waggon, from there, and then returned for me again, "with a lunch", walked down the Bank of the River, met Jim about ½ way, between Fabie and Lu Wadsworth's upper Machine, thence to Jim Sheppards where I met my friend Harry - and his Son Sam: Sheppard. - Thence on to the Elliots Niagara. Gave Jim Sheppard $2, Breakfast 60¢, dinner 50¢, Supper 25¢, Railway fare $2.25¢, $4. and Buggy $1.50¢. - Was Crippled and Sore in legs, Calves of legs, and thighs, Caused by going down the declivity, went out at 6, a. m. Came in at 10. p. m. Miles 60. - -

$ ¢
2.25
1.10
1.75
$5.10¢

Monday. 4. October 1880.

At Niagara all day, paid Johnston Blanch $10. on account of his good Mile for lot, beside Ferry lot, to pay him $40, more in January next; fishing very good at Queenston, and Niagara, pickerel Herring, Bass, perch, and White fish in great abundance. — Miles 4. 1 g. St. paint at Bangain.

Board Bills, Fe. Fe. Fe. $2.00¢

Tuesday. 5. October 1880. —

At Niagara, Hamilton home by St Catherine, went out at 10. a. m. came in at 6. p. m. Miles 50, Stage fare 75¢, Breakfast 25¢, dinner 40¢, other expenses 75¢.

2.05

Express Charges. $1.50, Fish for House, $1.75¢.
Telegraph 25¢, Postage stamps 25¢.
Envelopes 20¢

Wrote James Patton, Collingwood,
" James Cantwell, Niagara, -
" John Simpson Missouri, Sturgon P.O. Boon County.

Sir,

6. October 1880.

I Have the honor to enclose you, Bank draft, No: 485. for the sum of Thirty dollars.—

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for this current season of 1880. as follows:

1. Alexander Rolla, B. Beach, For a Boat license already received and delivered, $ 8.00,
2. Henry Sheppard, Queenston. For a Seine license in full, received and delivered.— 2,00
3. Thomas Reid, Grantham, For a Boat license received and delivered.— 5.00,
4. Patk, Hand, Ulmona, For do, do.— 5.00,
5. Francis Portwine, Gates Gulley, For do, 5.00,
6. Col: H. B. Villiers, B. Beach, For a Seine hauling ground, license, received and delivered. 5.00.

Total, $ 30.00

Hon: Minister,
H. H. H.

I Have &c,
John W Kerr
J. O.

Friday, 8. October 1880.—

At Clarksons Corners, thence to Port Credit. Toronto, and Toronto Island.— Mrs Charlotte Reid, paid $4. on acct of License for 1880.— Got $5. from Mr P. Gray, for Francis Portwine, and went out at 6. a. m, came in at 8. p. m Miles 50. My fare $2. Breakfast dinner, tea and bed, $1.25, Boat Hire 10 cts, H H B. $1.—

My dear Brownjohn, Hamilton, 7. October 1880.

Please let me know by return Mail, if you can make it your Convenience to come with me by just Train from Grimsby, on next Monday morning; and stake off the Lot at Niagara for me, --

I will have a Conveyance at St Catharines to run us down to old Niagara. --

And with Kind regards. --

Thos: J. Brownjohn Esq
P. L. Surveyor
Grimsby, Ont.

Yrs Sincerely
John Wilson

Sent $10. to Big Jim — Gave $2.50 for spade and Shovel. — and Ordered 350 pounds of White bark wire a Stretcher, and Staples - to my address at Niagara, and to the Care of James Cantwell, Fisherman.

Saturday, 9. October 1880. —

At Toronto Island, Toronto and Hamilton, Boat Hire 25¢, Breakfast 35¢, 4 Pr B. 1.25, went out at 6. a. m. Came in at 11.30. a. m. Miles 50

12. Oct. 1880,

My dear Woollard, I am just in receipt of your Note. I will come down on tomorrow, Wednesday evening; leaving here by the 5. o'clock. p. m. Train. -- So if you are at leisure, you might come up and meet me at the Grand Trunk Union Station, and we will talk over all our affairs. -- My Kind regards to Mrs and Children, and believe me, Yours Truly

J. Wilson

Mr Wm Woollard
Fisherman,
Leslieville, Ont.

P.S. —

Sir,

9. October 1880.

I have the honor to send you, Bank draft No. 503, for the sum of Thirteen dollars. - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows; -

1. Mr Francis Portuma, Gates Gulley, Lake Ontario On account of Boat License, for the year 1879. - $4.00.

2. Mr Dan; McGuyne, of Burlington Beach, On account of Boat License, in Lake Ontario during this current season. 1880. - $5.00

3. Messrs Francis and Charles Reid, Port Credit. On account of Seine hauling license, during this current season, 1880. - $4.00.

The Honble
The Minister
V. V. V.

I have, &c.
John W Kerr
J.O.

Monday. 11. October 1880. -

J. at Browns Wharf and the Railway, received Mr W. Canoe, 4. Boxes, and a Basket, brought them up to Hamilton and North Western Station, and shipped them on to Port Dover. - paid Freight charges, $1.63 pd. by Mr W. Also gave a dollar for to treat the Crew of the Steamer. Down again about Telegraphs from, and to Mr Whitcher, went out at 8, a. m. came in 7. 30. p. m. Miles 20. H & B. $1.50. - C.J.K

11th October 1880.

Wrote to Mr Whitcher, -

Tuesday. 12. October 1880. -

at G. W. R. Station, got free pass for Mr Mr. from Toronto to Hamilton, went out at 8.35 a. m. came in at 10.50. a. m. Miles 8. H & B -

Sir,

11. October 1880,

I have the honor to draw your attention to the approaching close season for White fish, and Salmon Trout. -- 1st to 10th November, inclusive."

And I most respectfully beg leave to draw your immediate attention to my letter thereon, addressed to the W. F. Whitcher, Commissioner of Fisheries, dated, Hamilton, 28th October 1879, - and I strongly recommend that you will be now pleased to carry out everything therein set forth; and order me to this effect. -

The close season for White fish and Salmon Trout, is so short, viz: from 1st to the 10th of November, inclusive; that all the other appendages of the Fisheries Act, to make this close season of some effect, require to be strenuously enforced. -

Will you be pleased to send me, as soon as possible, 50, close season, public printed Notices, signed by the Commissioner; for White fish, Salmon Trout, and Speckled Trout; and with due respect. -

Hon.ble

The Minister,

F. F. F.

I Have, &c,

John W Kerr

F.o,

Sent copy of letter 28. Oct: 1879, it being asked for, on 15. Oct: 1880; J W Kerr. F.o,

Sent receipt for $78.68/100, to Department, this 11. October 1880. J W Kerr. F.o,

Telegraph - for C. Bingham paid 35c.

Sir,

2, October 1880.

I have the honor to report, that I deem it advisable to have a special Guardian appointed for the mouth of Duffin's Creek, during Salmon close season, this fall.--

I would most respectfully beg leave to recommend, Mr. Thomas Fields, for the office, he lives on the Lake shore, on his farm, in the Township of Pickering, quite close to the mouth of Duffin's Creek, where Salmon first enter this stream, and he is both reliable, and trustworthy; twenty dollars will be sufficient for the services he may render there.--

Mr. John Jordon, for Guardian, and some other person to be employed as usual, from the Base Line, on this stream up to the Mill dam in the Village of Duffin's Creek, at the usual rate of $100, for the season.--

Lyons Creek, The Rouge, and Etland Creek, I leave for Mr. Whitchers to determine on, or as parent Salmon may appear therein during spawning time.--

If there should be a heavy fall of Rain, so as to raise the water in those streams, the same as was the case in the year 1878, a good Crop of parent spawning Salmon will be sure to come in, to all the Creeks, &c, and spawn there.--

But if the water is very low, in the streams, my impression is, "and it is Contrary to all Salmon rule,"-- the fish (Salmon,) will go, where good clean rapids, and deeper water can be found for their purposes, in other Creeks, perhaps back to Wilmot Creek.--

The Humber, I dont think, will require a Guardian, next fall, unless you may say so,-- and give orders to this effect.--

For the River Credit, the 16, and 12, Mile Creeks, the present Stationary Guardians are sufficient. Unless the water rises higher, in the River Credit, then it will or may become necessary to

retain Mr Thomas Harris, at Steetaville, at same rate as last year. — This too is for Mr Whitchers decision. —

I may say in Conclusion, that I will visit all those Salmon streams myself, during Salmon Spawning Season, and make Notes of whatever may attract my attention in the Salmon line, and I will record the same in my next annual Report, for your information. —

All of which is respectfully Submitted.

The Honble
The Chairman,
&c, &c, &c.

I Have, &c.
John W Kerr
F.O.

8. October 1880. —

Respected Sir, I take the liberty of again informing you, that the close season for White fish and Salmon Trout this fall, will be from the 1st to the 10th of November next, both days inclusive. —

Will you be pleased to give the necessary instructions to the Station Agents, Conductors, other Agents or Officers, of your Company, so that the Fisheries Act may still continue to be duly observed as heretofore on their part. —

And in Conclusion I thank you kindly, for what you have already done in the interest of the Fisheries. —

I am, Yours respectfully,
John W Kerr F.O.

J. Broughton Esqre
Man; of G. W. Ry.
&c. &c. Hamilton, —

see 24. Oct /80 Letter Book.

16. October 1880,

John A. Stairs, —
Hotel Keeper,
Port Rowan.

Will you be so good as to send word to C. Bingham Rowan Mills, to meet me at Turkey point, next tuesday morning at 9. o'clock, a. m. 35¢

John W Kerr
F. Overseer

Private

Hamilton, Ontario,

14. October 1880. -

My dear Bingham. -

I am just in receipt of a letter from Mr. William Snook, fisherman, Turkey point, dated 11th October inst, stating that you have been there to regulate the ranges, and that you have failed to do so, to either his benefit, or, Miss Lucy Jackson's benefit. - Now My dear Brother Bingham, can't you do this at once without any more reference being made to the fisheries department, Ottawa. -

Snook further complains that Israel Wilson and Augustus Shoemaker, are now fishing on Helmers ground, and that neither of them have got a License from the department, of Marine, and fisheries. ix

Snook further complains that you seem to favour Ferris and Helmer. - As a friend and Brother officer, I would advise and recommend you to try and endeavour to fix the ranges, so as if possible to give those people no further cause of complaint. - -

It always affords the greatest pleasure and satisfaction to the department, at Ottawa, to learn that their instructions are carried out by (us) executive officers towards all fishermen concerned, in such a way as to afford peace, ~~and~~ satisfaction, and contentment to all concerned, I expect soon to see you again. -

Yours truly,

J. W. Kerr F.O.

C. J. Bingham Esqre
F. Overseer.
Rowan Mills.

ix

Take the Nets from them, summons them up, fine them, and Confiscate the nets, Boats, refse fish, &c. and then report officially to the F. dept, Ottawa.

J. W. Kerr
F.O.

Mailed on the 14th of October 1880: as follows;

Close season Notice, Mr Richard Gilbert, Indian Station, P. office,
" " " Thomas Reid, Grantham, St Catherines, P. office,
" " " " W. H. Pollock Esqre J. Coroner, Bronte,
" " " Mr Mich: Doyle, Fish dealer, Toronto.
" " " James G. Wilcox J. Coroner, Port Credit.
" " " Major Francis and Mrs Charlotte Reid,
Fishermen, Clarksons Corners.—
" " " Mr Abraham St. Jobb, Beamsville,
" " " Mr Wm Ingledew, Bronte,
" " " " Francis Portwine, J. Gulley, Scarborough,
" " " " Thomas Mansfield, Frenchmans Bay.—
Dumbarton, P. office.—
" " " James Wynne, P. M. Queenston,
" " " Mr James Cantwell, Fisherman, (2) Niagara
" " " " Harry Sheppard, do, Queenston,
" " " " John Stand, Fisherman, Grimsby,—
" " " " Patrick Stand, do, Winona.—
" " " " Peter Heath do, Pt Dalhousie
" " " " Dawson Post, Fish dealer, Toronto
" " " " Wm Woollard, Fisherman, Leslieville,
" " " " Thomas Elliot, do, Niagara,
" " " " John W. Ramsey, do, Ridgeway,
add. Postage stamps. 30 cts, H

Sent copy of my letter dated 28. Oct; 1879.—
"On close season", to Mr Bauset, this 15. Oct 1880. J W Kerr, F.C.

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 11th instant, was duly received complaining of Israel Wilson, and Augustus Shoemaker, for fishing two Seines, without a License in Lake Erie, on a fishing ground, at Turkey point, occupied by Wm Helmer.--

I purpose leaving here for Port Dover, on next Monday, in the afternoon; Could you manage to meet me there in Mr Bells, Hotel, when the Train arrives; so as to furnish me with all particulars, before I go on to Turkey point.

Also every information you can procure about the re=establishing of the Seine hauling ground ranges.—

I will telegraph Bingham, to meet me at Turkey point, on tuesday morning next, but I expect by your aid to get there myself, on Monday night, you need not tell any one, I am coming.—

After I get through with your business, I will want a Boat and man, to row over to Stead grounds, Long point, My Kind regards to Mrs Snook, and Willey.

Yours Truly

I. Hall Walker J.P.,

15. October 1880.—

Mr. Wm Snook,
Fisherman
L. point Harmandale, P. office,

Monday, 18. October 1880.—

On B. Beach, as far up as the Canal,— Jos: Corey, paid me $2. on acct of License for 1880.—

Maurice Corey, $2.50¢ on acct of License for 1879.—

Thomas Joyce paid $5, on acct of 1880. at 5 Minutes to 6. a.m. found Jos: Corey, was running over his H. gill nets, went out at 5, a.m, came in at 11, a.m. Miles 24. 144 B. $2.50¢. Breakfast 50¢, C. J. Kerr, delivered G. net license to Mortimer Corey, he is to pay $5. for it.— R. Mar. J

Wednesday, 13. October 1880,

✓ At Toronto, and Toronto Island. — found all night, went out at 3. p. m. came in at 9. p. m. Miles about 46. My fare $1.30, dinner tea and bed 75¢, Boat 35¢. C. J. Kerr left me at Station.

✓ Thursday, 14. October 1880;

Came from the Island to the City, and away down to Ashbridges Bay, to see Mr Wm Stein, fisherman, instructed him, to put a man named Morris away from his fishing shanty. saw Wm Woolland, fisherman; Met Mr Whitcher at Union Station, he came up by the G. T. Railway, got Mr Whitchers luggage and also, Mr Allan Gilmore's, — and had them checked for Hamilton, on arriving at Hamilton, brought them up to the Royal Hotel, eleven pieces, paid 50¢, for Mr Whitcher in Toronto, charge for bringing up things to Royal, $1. — dinner $1. Breakfast and tea 75¢. My fare $1.30. Boat $1 49 miles. — Gave Mr W. $20. Loan. C. J. Kerr, with me, saw B—; Wilmot, spoke for one of my boys.

Friday, 15, October 1880, 1.30 - 1 - 1.75 . 1. 5.05 - 1 = 4.05.

Down early this morning, saw that everything was placed on Board the Dover Train, 44 B, $1.50, C. J. Kerr, with me. — paid 30¢, for Mr Whitcher, — Miles 8. —

CANADIAN SALMON FISHING.

To the Editor of The Mail.

SIR,—Mr. Eardley-Wilmot B. Holt's rejoinder maintains that the salmon net east of Point Rouge, fronting on the River St. Lawrence, "traverses the channel of the River Saguenay," notwithstanding that everybody else acquainted with the locality, and not altogether blind, knows full well that it is situated three miles outside of the mouth of the Saguenay river. I repeat that there are no salmon nets set anywhere in the River Saguenay, and have not been for several years. What would a Torontonian think if Mr. Holt asserted that a net placed in Lake Ontario near the west side of Toronto Bay, about opposite the Lunatic Asylum, "traverses the channel" of the River Don? It might occur to him that the sportsman who made and persisted in such an assertion was a fit subject to take charge of the imaginary net, and could appropriately reside much nearer to it than at the east side of Ashbridge's Bay. It is simply absurd to suppose that anybody's "wrath" would be excited by such blundering statements, or that there is any discourtesy in the mere fact of exposing them. Had Mr. Holt based the attack he makes upon the Government, the fishery laws and officers, and the whole salmon fishery of Canada, on probable misinformation, the term misrepresentation applied to his letter would not have been used. Allowance could in such case be made for his apocryphal Indian at Point l'Islet, or for the half witted lounger at the Tadousac hotel, whose mouthpiece he has (unconsciously perhaps) made himself. But when Mr. Holt professes to be an eye-witness, and to have made personal observations, founding thereon charges of inefficiency, neglect, and favouritism, he must be held to strict account for the accuracy of his assertions. There certainly is no discourtesy in this. Consider for a moment, what claim has Mr. Holt to special courtesy arising out of his communication? His first letter acknowledges great "kindness and hospitality" received in Canada, from both official and private sources. What return did he make? He wrote to the Toronto MAIL and Montreal *Herald*, sneering at the difference he pretends to find between the "great doings of the Canadian Government with regard to the protection of the rivers and the artificial breeding of salmon," and the utter "destruction" and money "thrown away" which he says he observed. He printed unmanly and baseless insinuations against the whole fisheries staff, and particularly the efficient officer at Tadousac. He either wilfully or stupidly misrepresented the law and the facts affecting the only fishing station to which he referred in support of a random statement that the laws were bad and inoperative; and that the whole expenditure was "practically useless." It is true he tendered the benighted authorities of Canada some sage advice about amending the fishery regulations, which he believed had already ruined the salmon fishery; and suggested improving them so as to ruin the fishery still more. But he quite overlooked the fact staring him in the face from our legislation that the regulations he so wisely suggests already exist, in a moderate and practical form, and that improvements such as he favours were long since condemned as extreme and impracticable. He concludes by declaring the sea trout fishery nearly extinct, because he found the residents "pulling out the trout as fast as they could put their lines into the water, and he had himself to come away and had no opportunity of trying the fishing." They were lawful anglers, although the complaint implies that they were poachers. This certainly is queer evidence of scarcity. Said I not truly that anglers who fish for trout, and not for occasion to grumble, may enjoy good sport? Perhaps Mr. Holt thinks this is not "usual courtesy."

The postscript to Mr. Holt's last letter asks why, if trout are in excess, the Government breeds them artificially at Tadousac. If he had troubled himself to ascertain the truth, or to inform himself intelligently, he would have learned that the sea-trout eggs procured and hatched at Tadousac are annually distributed in other parts of the Dominion.

May I not fairly ask if the example of Mr. Holt's "courtesy," to say nothing of gratitude, shown above is such as entitles him to question mine?

I apologise, Mr. Editor, for occupying so much of your space, and assure you that I am neither excited nor wrathful, and cannot understand what Mr. Holt means by putting a cap on my own head. My sole object is to remind sportsmen of Mr. Holt's calibre that if they have nothing to offer in return for "kindness and hospitality" enjoyed in Canada excepting public correspondence, fraught with a genteel sort of defamation, they should at least endeavour to distinguish between rational criticism of our legislative and official system founded on impartial enquiries or truthful examination, and that superficial condemnation based on prejudice or an assumption of facts which scarcely relates to the slim authority of hearsay.

Yours, etc.,
W. F. WHITCHER.

Rideau Bank, Ottawa, 19th January.

Private

My dear Joe. –

Yours of the 15th ult. duly received. – I am aware from my own personal knowledge, since Sunday, 3rd ult. of October, that you have been legally fishing, and had been catching fish; – doing a Big business! – I am glad to hear Mr Sheppard is doing well at his fishing. –

Now with regard to Butcher, Chester Wadsworth, breaking the law, every Sabbath, I am aware that on Monday Morning, the 26. of September 1880, Henry Storms had a load of fish, in his yard, it is supposed he got from Wadsworth, but when those fish, were caught, my informant, saith not. Now as regards Wadsworth fishing his Machine on Sunday, unless you or some one will come forward, and swear positively, that you saw him fish, and Catch the fish, I cannot hold him up, nor give him. Our suspicions may be well founded, that he fishes some time, between 6. o'clock, p.m, on Saturday evening, and before 6. o'clock, a.m, on the following Monday Morning, I have every reason, to believe he does; But Joe, you are the man to catch him, he destroyed your own Fathers Machine, as we all firmly believe, but then I want some one to prove he has done so; this once accomplished, I will then have him fined, his Machine confiscated, and his license cancelled. –

"You, and your father, have been the sufferers, he can never treat you worse, than he has already done; then why dont you, do all in your power to catch him breaking the Law. –

Who went up, about 4, o'clock, p.m, on last Sunday, "You say, they went up", and had fish on Monday morning; You are no doubt aware, that two fishing Machines, on the American side of the River, are fished every Sunday, just over the way, from Wadsworth, and you are also aware that Do hee

Wadsworth, has a Machine on the American side of the River, below Winfield Scotts, Machine, and unless you catch Wadsworth, or his son, or some one else, in the act of breaking the law, he will secure himself, out of any charge, I might bring against him. –

Today, Sunday 17th I cannot go down to catch him; But I will hereafter. –

If young Wadsworth, wants a load of fish, Jim Wynnes, Machine, being in the River, will not prevent him getting the fish. – Why dont you watch him, on Saturday and Sunday nights, and see before 6. o'clock, on Monday morning, how it is, that he procures fish for Monday morning. –

"Fish caught on Saturday evening, before 6. o'clock, p.m., cannot be sold until Monday following, instance your own fathers Catch on a Saturday. – – –

Whatever I may do myself, in this case, I cannot tell you now, it would not be a proper thing for me to do. – But some time in the future, I may succeed in Catching some person or persons breaking the fishery law, and the sabbath law, in the Niagara River, at Queenston Heights. –

Give my kind respects to your father and Wife and you may read this letter to Mr Henry Sheppard, he is your friend and mine, and he can keep a secret.

Remember me at the same time, to Mr Sheppard, and believe me,

Yours Sincerely

J W Kerr, J. Duncan.

Mr Jos: Gabriel Jr.
Queenston,

17. Oct; 1880.

2, Quills. 40¢, Paper 15¢

My dear Wilcox, Hamilton, Ontario.

As I presume there will be no one, but yourself, and myself, for to guard the River Credit, this fall you will have to re=double your exertions and activity. —

Parent Salmon, should soon make their appearance and you may begin to look out for them. — —

I sent you a printed Notice - "On close seasons", for white fish, and Salmon Trout, for Mickey Free, and George Ferran, — You will please give them Notice from me, that they must fish up on 31st of this month, at latest, and go home to the Island, Instro you will see that they punctually do so. — I was at Toronto, on Wednesday, and came back on thursday evening, "late train", with the Commissioner whom I saw off from here, the next morning, at 7.30. a.m. —

I am off, to Turkey point, on tomorrow, and so now, I place all my dependence in you. —

And with my Kind regards, believe me,

Yours Sincerely,

J. W. Kerr

Fishery Overseer,

17. October 1880,

Jas: F. Wilcox Esqre
F. Overseer,
Port Credit.

P.S. Ascertain privately for me from Mickey, before he leaves, how many Salmon Trout, and White fish, he has caught, since they came to the Credit — and keep it for me. —

Yo. J W Kerr
F.O.

Note,

My Bay traps in the River, J W Kerr
F.O.

My dear friend Gordon, —

I hope you are still in good health, and on the land of the living. —

What arrangements are you making, for protecting the Salmon in Duffins Creek, this fall; please answer, and let me know.. On receipt, please take your Boat, and go down to the mouth, examine for yourself, and let me know the state of the mouth; and if Mr Thomas Fields, will assist us at the mouth. —

And with my best and warm regards. —

believe me, Yours Sincerely,

J. W. Kay,

F. Overseer, 17. Oct. 1880. —

John Gordon Esqre Sr
F. Guardian,
Duffins Creek,

Monday, 18; October 1880. — —

V. At Hamilton, and North Western Railway Station, off to Port Dover, thence to Turkey point, by Orders from Mr Whitcher, Commissioner of Fisheries, in order to settle Ranges off the "Outer Bay," Turkey point, telegraphed C. L. Bingham, F. O, on Saturday, previously to meet me there, went out at 2, p.m, came in at 10.30. p.m, Miles 60. Ry fare $1.50, S^t and B, $2.00. Tea, &c. 50^¢, Bed, 25^¢, total, $4.25^¢

Tuesday, 19. October 1880. —

V. At Turkey point, uptill 2, p.m, waiting for C. L. Bingham, who did not put in an appearance there, thence back to Port Dover, went at 2, p.m. came in at 4.30, p.m, Miles 18. S^t & B. $2.25^¢, Breakfast, dinner, tea and bed $1.50^¢

Telegraph, 28^¢

Wednesday, 20, October 1880,

At Port Dover, and Long point, went over to see Mr Whitcher, Commissioner of Fisheries, found C. L. Bingham there on my arrival, was well treated, treated like a Prince, made the guest of the Company, dined with the Sporting Gentlemen there at the time, and had the post of Stoner Conferred on me, being placed on the right of the Chairman, Mr John D. MacKenzie, the L. point, Companys Secretary. -

Mr W. F. Whitcher, C. of F. sat on my right. There was present, Mr Lord, Tea Merchant N. York, and three other N. York, gentlemen, a Mr Walker was one, I forget the Names of the other two, although, I was introduced to them. -

Mr Wm Hunter, Tea Merchant, New York, Col: Walker, of London, with whom I became acquainted, while x x ing over on the Steamer Annie Craig, of Port Burwell. - Col: Allan Gilmour, Ottawa, Col: Tisdale, of Simcoe, all enjoyed themselves immensely. - The dinner was roast Mutton, White fish, and Wild ducks, pumkin pie, and Rice pudding, - all of which I partook of, except the pumkins, - plenty of ale and Champaign. I had two cups of tea. - went out 11.30. a. m came in at 3. p. m, Miles 20, Fare $1. - Breakfast and dinner at Dover 50¢, and 25¢, Telegraph. -

Thursday. 21, October 1880.–

V. At Long. Port Dover, and Hamilton, went out at 8, a.m, came in at 2, p.m, Miles about 61. Ry fare $1.50¢, dinner 30¢. Steamer $1.00¢, H and B. $1.65¢. $4.45¢

V. Friday. 22, October 1880.

At Toronto, and Toronto Island, went out at 9.30, a.m, came in at 6, p.m, Miles 86. – Ry $2.30, dinner 50¢, Boat 50. Mr P. and Mrs Gray, were absent from the Island, H & B. $1.50¢.

Gave Folmesby, Boy, a Basket of ducks for Doctor Sluart, from Mr Whitcher, and four ducks for Jim Riddell, – gave a pair to Sylvester Beasley, 2, pair to Ned Brown, 2, pair to Ned: Brown for Captain of Mail Steamer, and 3 pair to Ned Brown for the Miller of Montreal, all these from Mr Whitcher. – gave a, Harry, Trouts 5 pair, – I gave Mr Doville 3 pair – the Station Master Hamilton 1, pair, and Bob: Munroe, a pair from myself, and James Colly, a pair. J. Lawrey, a pair.

Sir,

25, October 1880.-

I have the honor to send you, a Montreal Bank draft, No: 559. for the sum of $ 15, dollars.-

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, as follows, for this current season, - "1880."

1. Thomas Joyce, fisherman, B. Beach; on account of License in full, already received and delivered some days ago, $ 5.00.

2. Jonathan Loney, Fisherman, B. Beach, on acct. of license received, and delivered. - } 2.00.

3. Hon: McLaughlin, Fisherman, B. Beach, on acct. and in full of license received by him, to Seine haul last spring in B. bay. - - - } 5.00.

4. Mdme. Charlotte Reid, and Francis Reid, Port Credit, in full for 1880, - a Balance - } 1.00.

5. Maurice Loney, B. Beach, For a license to fish Herring gill Nets in L. Ontario last year, 50¢ more will be sent by next remittance. - 2.00.

Total, $ 15.00¢

Will you be pleased to send me a Boat license for Maurice Loney, of B. Beach, fisherman, For to fish 500 yards of Herring gill nets, on Seine hauling ground No. 114, in Lake Ontario, on B. Beach; also the privilege to fish the same for the balance of this year for Ciscos, in Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Saltfleet, The license fee, is to be $ 3. dollars.

The Honble
The Minister of
Marine and Fisheries,
Ottawa. - - - 3

I have the
honor,
J. W. Kerr
J. P.

International Bridge, Ont.

October 16, 1880.

Mr Kerr,

Dear Sir, Could you inform me, if persons are allowed to shoot, at Long point, on paying a License. - Or must permission be obtained from the Stock Holders. - if the latter is the case could you obtain permission for myself, and two friends to shoot there this fall, by paying the necessary expenses. -

And what the cost per day, or week, would be, and our best way to go, - I should like very much to go there for a week, or ten days shooting, if such a thing is possible. -

If you will be kind enough to assist me in this matter, I will see that you are liberally supplied with ducks on my return. - -

My family are in good health, please answer at your earliest convenience. -

C. W. Nettle

International Bridge, Ont.

Hamilton, Ont.

My dear Bill,

This is a letter, I received from the writer on yesterday. I answered it by stating that the Rules of the Long point Company, were so strict, I feared neither he nor his 2 friends, could get there, at least this fall. - Mr Nettle is the Nephew of a Gentleman, in the employment of the Quebec Government, at present, and is known to Mr Whitcher. -

The applicant is a splendid shot, he resides in Bertie, on the Niagara River, his address, is International Br; P. Office, Ont.

Respectfully Submitted,

John I. MacKenzie Esqre,
Secretary,
Long Point

J. W. Kerr

25, Oct, 1880.

Postage stamps
50 cts

Sir,

25. October 1880. -

I Have the honor again to recommend to you officially, as I have already done in conversation, for your consideration, and approval, the appointment of a resident Local fishery officer, on Long point, in Lake Erie, as the best, and most beneficial way of protecting the fish and the fisheries there. -

Long point proper, as you are aware, situated in the Township of Walsingham, and County of Norfolk, is at present an Island in Lake Erie, 22 Miles long, and in some places, it is 5 Miles wide. - Mr Harry Woodward, is the Light House Keeper there. -

There is a great abundance of fishes in the waters of Lake Erie, surrounding Long point, and also in the Marshes the Bays, the ponds and Creeks intersecting the same; which at all times requires more immediate and closer attention, than can be given, as you are aware to the fisheries there, by the present local officer, Mr Bingham, resident at Rowan Mills, which is on the Main Land. - -

In consequence of severe westerly storms, and North westerly storms, sometimes of so violent, and boisterous a nature, no person from the Main Land, can get there, for several days; hence it is absolutely necessary, that a resident thereon, should be appointed over the valuable fisheries, I have hereinabove described to you. - -

I consider no person more deserving of this position there, than Mr Wm Leary, Steward of the Long point boy, who is so familiar already, with every nook, and corner of Long point, with all the surroundings, and every part of the same. - -

From Ryerse Island, on Long point, North, on the Outer Bay, to Lake Erie, thro' the Marsh, on the south, is about four Miles. - - -

From the mouth of Carrying place Creek, to the Life Boat Station, thro' the Marsh, is about 4 Miles,

It is always easilly got at, by a resident on the point, and thro', and over waters always abounding with fish.--

There is Sam log Creek, on the North, and on the Outer Bay, it is 3 Miles, thro' the Marsh, to Lake Erie, on the South; And Deep Creek, on the outer Bay, is ½ a Mile from Sam log Creek, all abounding with Maskinonge, Bass, Pike, and Pickerel; while the waters on the outside, and surrounding the point, as you are already aware, have abundance of choice fish therein, of still greater varieties, and in more abundance, than in the waters of the Marsh, &c. &c. and which requires close attention paid thereto, by a Local resident Officer, always present to protect from poor Trespassers.--

All along, the Outer Bay, from the Bluff, to the Light House, east say, for about ten Miles in length, on the North shore of the point, and which abounds with abundance of our choice fish, requires not only an attentive officer, but always Continuous looking after, at certain seasons; by Harry Woodward, Light House Keeper, whom I here take the liberty of recommending to you, may be appointed in his proper person, as a fishery Guardian, Just the same as other Light House Keepers are in similar out of the way places; and the Salary should be made sufficient, to ensure both active and successful duties being performed at all times by him: — For sometimes, as it is well Known, people from the Main land, and U. S. — take a run over, to the Bluff, and between the Bluff, and the Light House, in the Outer Bay, steal a set or two, perhaps more; with Gill Nets, on the sly, and in contravention of the Fisheries Act, and before the Local Officer, at Roman Mills could hear of it, they are off, and away, to the Main Land, &c. again; Such Contraventions of the "Fisheries Act, occurred there, in the fall of 1879.--

And I am aware at this present time, that it is in preparation by Mr P. H. Bates, and others, fish dealer, at Hamilton, to go there, and fish for Ciscos, and White fish, this present fall, and so that no time should be

lost in appointing those Officers; so that they may be sworn in, and endowed with power, by you, thro' me, to protect these valuable fisheries, and if any Contravention of the Fisheries act, is committed, prosecute, convict, and Confiscate fish caught, the Nets, and Boats, found illegally in use. Messrs Leary, and Woodward, were heretofore fishery Officers under me, and they are already aware, what the department will hereafter expect from them, in the discharge of their duties, when reappointed. --

There will be still sufficient territory left, for Mr Bingham, to oversee and protect from depredators. - And perhaps you might consider, if it will be necessary to retain, or otherwise, the two Guardians at Big Creek, and St Williams, after those appointments, I recommended are made by you.- So much of Mr B. present division, being taken away from him. -

It was only last week, that Mr Bingham, in crossing from the Main Land, to Long point, got his Boat broken up in pieces, and demolished. —

All of which is respectfully submitted, and recommended by me, for your approbation.

W. F. Whitcher Esqre, Com^r of Fisheries, Ottawa. - -

I have. &c.
J. W. Kerr,
J. O.

P. S. Besides I may add, it is most likely, that extensive fishing will be carried on, at Long point, during the next season, several applications being already made to me, by Parties Net fishermen to this effect, during the past week. —

Respectfully, submitted.
J. W. Kerr J. O.

My dear Woollard, Hamilton, Ont.,

I received the $5, today, which I endorsed on your license, now returned. –

You can go down as far as Port Union, and fish for White fish, but dont break the Law.

No fishing between the 1st and 10th of November, for White fish and Salmon Trout. Mind that!

Mr W.B. Woollard,
Fisherman,
Leslieville,

Yours truly,
J.W. Kerr, F. Overseer,

25. October 1880.

Hamilton. Ont.

My dear Gordon, Your letter duly received. I would come down, but I am waiting for to see ~~you~~ the Commissioner, who is up the Country, on his return. – I had a letter from the Fisheries department, dated 19. instant, which says as regards Duffins Creek; "I am to in=
"struct you to engage efficient men to guard Duffins Creek,
"until the spawning season is over, at a Cost not exceeding
"$100." – When I wrote you on the 17th instant, I expected your answer would be that you had a Night Guardian on, and that you had Noticed Mr Thomas Fields, to guard the mouth. – But instead of that, I am sorry to find, that until you got my letter, you never made a move. –

I dont care to hear anything about John Pile, do you intend to protect Salmon during the spawning sea=
son, or not. – Giving Fields $20, and dividing the $80, between a good Night Watchman, a reliable man, who can be depended upon and yourself.

The same instructions you have received from me, during previous years, to be carefully observed, in all par=
ticulars and in every respect. – Are you prepared to do this, if not say so. –

There is no use in fuddling fault with Mr John Hoover, the Miller, he has always befriended us, and I hope will continue so, both to Point

Salmon, and guardians. —

I suppose if I had not written to you, you would never have thought it worth your while to go near the stream. —

I went away to Lake Erie, the next day, after I wrote you, and did not get your letter, until 24th instant. Let me know at once what you have done since. —

And if you have done nothing, I will come down immediately. — Yours Truly

John London Esqr Sr, Duffins Creek, 80 Pickering P.O.

J W Kerr P.O.
25. Oct: 1880.

P.S.

If you have no one else, why not put on the Lewis Hotel down, where I usually stop or Hartrick your son-in law, but remember and tell who ever it is, the duty must be faithfully performed,

Yr J W Kerr P.O.

Tuesday, 26, Oct. 1880, — Wed: 27, Oct, and Whitby.

At Toronto, and Duffins Creek, — Out on the creek, and down to the mouth saw Thos: Fields. — engaged him to watch the mouth for $20, per spawning season. John London Sr, and Dan Lewis, accompanied me down, found Wm H. Hartrick, Night Watchman on his post London reported to me several large Salmon being in the Creek and Sup Beds, He Saw 2 large fish in for first time on 18th instant, at the Dam being down, went out at 3. p.m. on 26th, out all night, and got home again on 27th at 1. p.m. + Hooks 1.45, Pay, 4.60, St. and Bd, 2.00, 1.50, Board 50¢, 25¢, — Boat and men $2.00 ¢

4.60.
2.00
1.50
.75
$10.85 ¢

private,

My dear Snooks,

The Gentleman, Mr Thomas B. Freeling, of this City, will pay you a visit this Week. - I understand he is a good shot, do all you can to get him good sport, at shooting on Turkey point.

When I arrived on Long point, on last Wednesday, from Howes, your friend Mr Bingham was there, just landed before me. - He told me, he had left the Main Land, on Saturday previous, his Boat got smashed up, hence why he was so long in getting there. -

Orders here - repeated by Mr Whitehead to Mr Bingham and myself, for to straighten the Ranges, at Turkey point, "Outer Bay," will apprise you, before I come up again so that every fisherman concerned, may be present there, on hand. - So matters are now to be settled, Mr Bingham will be with me, when I come next time. -

My kind regards to Dick Clarke, Mrs and family.

Mr Wm Snooks.
Fisherman,
Turkey point,
Wheatandale P. Office

Yours Sincerely,
J W Kerr.
Hamilton, Ont.,
26. Oct. 1880.

P.S. - Write me anything you may have to communicate in the mean time,

J W Kerr.

You can tell Lucy, and all others concerned, if you wish.

J W Kerr

My dear Gordon, Hamilton,

On receipt of this letter, I will thank you to go and see Mr Bunting, the worthy Magistrate of the Village; and County of Ontario, tell him every thing you have from Hayson, Biles, brotherinlaw, and what Biles himself said to you, whenever you asked him, for the Boat, to use in your Capacity, as Fishery Guardian. -

Also allow Mr Bunting to see and read my letter to Mr John Biles. - And let me once more impress on you, and your Assistants, strict attention at all times to the Spawning Salmon, and their protection, Note every thing down for me, perhaps the Squire wants sent for John Biles, and advise him, that the course he is about to pursue, in keeping on taking the Boat away, with him will only entangle him in the meshes of the Law. -

If he fails, in giving up the Boat, I; I; after you have him my letter, I will be obliged to take immediate law steps, and to Biles, it will be most expensive proceedings.

John Gordon Esqre Jr,
F. Guardian
Huffins Creek,

Yours Sincerely,
J W Keso F.O.
28. Oct. 1880.

P. S,

Act instantly in this case,

J W Keso
F.O.

Mr John Pile,
Township of Pickering.
Near Duffin's Creek,

Hamilton

Sir,

I will thank you to hand over to Mr John Gordon Sr. F.G. on Duffin's Creek, the small Boat, a pair of Oars, a paddle, and a pair of Rowlocks given into your charge for me, by Mr Mess Smith, when he was leaving Duffin's Creek, for the Cataract township of Caledon; The Boat House too, is the property of the Fisheries department, being Constructed by Mr Smith, with money given him for that purpose. –

At your own request, and upon the recommendation of Mr Smith, I gave the Boat in charge to you; you, at the same time promising to take good Care of her, paint her, and that you would also assist me in protecting the Salmon, for which you were to have the use of the Boat occasionally which on my part I have faithfully kept, and fulfilled. – I will therefore thank you to hand every thing over now to Mr John Gordon Sr, for me, and for and in behalf, of the Fishing department, Ottawa, who are the right full Owners thereof.

If you have any claim against me, or the fisheries, please hand in your acct to Squire Bunting J.P, giving day and date, and to be more accurate you might affix your affidavit thereto and I will recommend it to be paid if correct,

28. Oct. 1880.

Yours truly
Gilbert Ross F.O.

My dear Wilcox, Hamilton,

Have you seen any Salmon yet in the River Credit, I was at Duffin's Creek, and spent all tuesday night on that Creek, Salmon stream. -

"There is abundance of parent Salmon there, at present. - How is it, I never hear (hardly ever,) from you, are you sick. - -

In my letter to you of the 14th instant, I said you were to give Notice to the Michal Free, and his mate, that they must fish up on the 31st of this month, and go home. - I find now, that the 31st falls on Sunday, Consequently you will give the Mich: Free and mate, Notice, that they must fish up on next Saturday, the 30th of October, and go home as there can be no deviation from the orders received from Head Quarters, Ottawa. -

The Commissioner, I expect will soon return here, on his way to Ottawa, and may stop over a Train at Port Credit, to see you, and enquire about the Salmon,

All well, Yours truly,

Jas: J. Wilcox Esqr
H. Overseer,
Port Credit

J W Kerr, H.O,
28. Oct. 1880,

P. S, you see Mickey does this! and prevent fines being imposed. -
J W Kerr, H.O.

Have stay pieces, 2, on each end of same, firmly nailed on. took all the Boxes down to the Ed: Browns wharf, Mrs Whitely was addressed to the Care of S. P. Bansel Y. department, Ottawa, and marked per Steamer to Prescott, Thence by Railway to Ottawa.

Mr Brown will send them, per first

My dear Pollock, Hamilton,

I passed on tuesday evening, and yesterday afternoon, over the 12 Mile Creek, at Bronte, and the 16, Mile at Oakville, and I find the water is high, after late rain; and so I would recommend you to examine the 12 Mile Creek, very carefully, and also the 16, M. Creek, particularly the 12th, - and ascertain if you can; the water being very muddy - if the spawning Salmon are up, . - There are plenty of Salmon in Bronte Creek, . My kind regards to Mrs Pollock, Be particular in seeing that the fishermen at Bronte, observe the close season for White fish and Salmon Trout. they should all fish up their White fish, and Salmon Trout next Saturday, and not set again until the 11th of November; you see that this is attended to. -

W. A. Pollock Esqre, Yours Sincerely,
H. Cruser, J. W. Kerr,
Bronte, Ont. H. Cruser,

Mr J. W. Kerr, Copy, Pickering, Oct. 25, 1880,

Sir, I have heard no word from you this fall yet, I would like to know if I would have anything to do with it this fall, if so I would stop old Black, from fiping for fishing at the Mouth of the Creek, this fall, I went up to your place last fall, to explain matters, and you was at the Elections, and I could stop only that day, please reply,

Peter Foshee

Steamer, gave 6 pair mag, out of 8 p I got for yself... My fare. $2.75¢ dinner 50¢, porters, and carriage 1.50, Cartage at Hamilton 50¢, Miles 80. - C. J. Stone

Telegraph 50¢.

$4.75.
$5.25¢.

Answer, private,

My dear Pete, The fishery department have appointed a private detective, to look after the Salmon in the Rouge, this Jale, hence why I cannot engage you myself. I wish you could entrap Joe Black, at the mouth of the Creek, then, we, that is you, and I would throw up our Stats. —

See and do it, if you can, Yours Joe Nelson

please answer Quick, yr Friend

Mr Peter Gosline, Port Union, P. Office, } J. Wilson. Jr.
28. Oct: 1880,

Friday. 29. October 1880. —

At B. Beach, delivered to Maurice Corey his License for fishing Herring gill Nets. $3 — he did not pay yet, thence to Town, with a Box of fish. for Mr Whitcher, Ottawa, paid $1.50 ¢ Express charges gave $2.45 ¢ for the fish. — down to Med: Browns wharf to enquire about sailing of the Mail Steamers; The Spartan sails tomorrow Saturday — Master, The Corsican on Monday, Sinclair, Captain went out at 9. a. m. came in at 6. p. m. Miles 30, A4 & B. $2.00 ¢. C. J. Kerr with me. —

Saturday. 30. October 1880.

At Pr dover, to meet the Commissioner, Mr W. H. Whitcher who did come from L. point, received letter from him per, Mr John I. Mackenzie, also Message to allow Pound Net. fisherman, to take White fish out of Pounds on next Monday, — gave permission to Mr Townsend to this effect. took down 2. large boxes of ducks. for Mrs Whitcher and a small box for A. Milloy and another for C. Drinkwater — Montreal; took them on to City of Hamilton, re-nailed Big boxes, and put

see 234. and 235.

private and confidential, Hamilton, 28. Oct. 1880.

My dear Mr Cowan, – As no person, will be appointed this year, to look after the present Spawning Salmon in the Rouge, will you be pleased occasionally to take a look around yourself, and perhaps you may be able to discover some person breaking the Law, perhaps Joe Black,

Yankee Pete, "Pete Goshua", has written to me the enclosed letter, which I send for your own private eye, with my answer, please return it to me! You might drop down some night to the mouth of the Rouge, and perhaps find Joe Black there, at his illegal work, catching salmon. –

If I was sure Joe Black, had any Nets, on hand, I would go down instantly, and bring a Constable with me, to his House, and take them from him. –

All those people, "Save one", are so unreliable, who have gone thro' a form of Watch the Salmon, with no other result than to pocket the money, that I am now completely discouraged, and except yourself, do not at present know, whom to trust, not one except yourself, If Yankee Pete, will catch Joe, breaking the Law, I will pay him for it, after he proves the case, against him, otherwise I can give him nothing.

With my kind regards, believe me,

Wm Cowan Esqre
&, &, &c
Midland Creek,
P. Office,

Yours Sincerely
J W Keso
J.P.

P.S. If Yanke Pete will prove that Joe Black has fished within your license limits, I will fine him,

J W Keso
J.P.

My dear Sir, Hamilton, Ont.

A copy of your petition, and Mr John Davidson's in reference to Puslinch Lake, sent by you to The Honble The Minister of Marine and Fisheries Ottawa.

Also copies of letters, written by Mr Charles Davidson of Guelph, To, The Right Honorable, Sir John A. Macdonald, Premier of Canada, — Have been referred to me, by the Fisheries department, Ottawa, with instructions to proceed to Guelph, and place myself in communication with the petitioners. —

I have therefore the honor of informing you, that I intend coming to Guelph, by the first Train, from here, on next thursday, so as to examine and inspect the Lake referred to, with the object of making such a report, as will be favorable "if I can", in behalf of your petition. —

Will you be pleased to have a Conveyance at Guelph, station, when Train arrives and be there, one, or either or both of you, to accompany me to the Lake. —

And please answer, by return Mail.

And oblige, Yours respectfully,

John Skeown Esqre
Chief Magistrate
Guelph, Ont.

J. Watson, J.P.
Hamilton, Ont.
1st Nov: 1880.

P.S. — I have sent a copy of this letter to John Davidson Esqre Guelph, one reply will be sufficient.

Yours,
J. Watson
J.P.

Monday, 1st November 1880.

At Sus: Bridge, Queenston, and Niagara, stopped at Mr James Wynne's at Queenston, to see him, but he was up the River at his Machine, saw Jos: Gabriel Jr and talked about young Wadsworth, fishing on Sundays. - from thence on to the Town of Niagara: saw from Jordan Br: 20. Mile Creek, a fishing Boat coming in towards the Beach, from the Lake, Wick fishers, perhaps; went for the purpose of seeing close season for White fish duly observed. - - and to fence in lot, for a small fish Breeding Establishment. C. J. Kerr, and Thos: C. Brownjohn with me, went out at 7.30. a.m, came in at 1.30. p.m, Miles 60. My fare $1.25 ¢, dinner, tea and bed $1.00. Carriage $3.50, - Miles 60. - Total $5.75 ¢.

Tuesday, 2. Nov: 1880. -

All day, in Niagara, looking and enquiring after the Fishing; Bob: Reid, complained agt Robert John Allan for fishing within 2 Miles of a Seine hauling ground, and that Big Jim, sets pickerel and Herring gill, and White fish gill Nets together, so that he may be able to put the White fish caught in pickerel and Herring gill Nets, with the fish caught in legal white fish gill Nets. - also surveying, and staking out Stevens, and Clench's lots; - Board for day, $1.50 ¢ Telegraph 27¢ Telegraph 27.25 Miles 4. paid $10. for lumber, and 53 ¢, for Carriage on Mine. Mr Brownjohn P. L. S. - and C. J. Kerr, and Bill Abbott, assisting for preparation of fencing, and surveying. - - - Telegraph 27¢

Note paper. 10¢ Stamps 10¢

Wednesday, 3. November 1880.-

At Niagara, and St Catharines, and Stoney, S&B. $2.50.
Ry fare. $1.25¢, S&B. to Hamilton again, $,
Breakfast 35¢, Miles about 52.-- Freight 25¢,
fare Brown John 5$, and C. J. Starr $10.-
Telegraph 27¢.

Thursday, 4. November 1880.

At Guelph, and Puslinch Lake, examined the Lake closely, around about 3/4ths of it close to the shore and at the Big Island.- It is a beautiful sheet of water, and fit for all kinds of good fish- I have more particularly described it in my report.- dated day of Nov: 1880: went out at 8. a.m., came in at 8.30. p.m., Miles 104, Ry fare 3.50. Stage and Buggy $1.50. dinner 25¢.-
Telegraph 24¢, 20¢, 20¢.

Tuesday, 9. November 1880,

At Port Hope, to meet Mr W. F. Whitcher, Commissioner of Fisheries, accompanied him to Hamilton, dined with him at the Royal Hotel, thence to the station, and saw him off, he had eleven pieces of luggage which I got checked! I also took down two large boxes of ducks. and his Canoe, to go on Board, the Corsicon, Captain Sinclair, to Prescott, thence by Railway for Ottawa: gave Judge Sinclair, a pair of ducks, Barney Cowell a pair, Mr Stiff, a pair, John Proctor, a pair to Mr Orton, a pair to Ned Browne a pair to Captain Sinclair (5.) had a pair for myself, went out at 6. a.m. came in at 6.30, p.m., Miles 86-, Ry $3.00¢, S&B. $2-

My dear Mr Mewin, 5. November 1880,

This will introduce to you my Son, Charles John Kerr, .- He is able and I hope you will find him willing to do every thing you may require of him. He is desirous of learning your Art, and Science of Fish Breeding, and so Mr Samuel Wilmot, upon Mr Whitcher's recommendation at my request, has consented to put him under your instruction. -

I will come up, and see you before the end of this year, so that I may be able to allude to your Establishment in my Annual Report, Mr Whitcher, has given me permission to pay you a visit, and with my Kind regards. -

James Mewin Esqre
F. F. F.
Sandwich, Ont.

Yours Sincerely
J W Kerr F.O.

Sir, 6. November 1880.

I have the honor to recommend, that spearing for Herring, Pike, Bass, &c. be permitted in Burlington Bay, and Dundas Marsh; from the 15th day of November instant, to the 1st day of April 1881; at the usual rate of $1, charge: to be paid by each person spearing. --

You need not give any Orders, for a Notice, as usual; to be inserted in the Local Government News papers, as I can put up half a dozen Written Notices myself, and the papers will give it as an item of News gratis.

And with due respect

The Honble
The Minister.
F. F. F.

I have, &c.
J. W. Kerr.
F.O.

P.S. please send me 50. Blank spearing licenses.
J. W. Kerr F.O.

Sir,

Hamilton, 12th November 1880.

I have the honor, to receive your letter of the 29th ultimo, enclosing to me the copies of certain papers connected with the petition, and application made by Sir Stone George Sleeman, Mayor of the City of Guelph; and Mr John Davidson of the same City, Gentleman; To The Sta; The Minister; "For a Lease of, and to have the waters of of Puslinch Lake, and the small creeks running into, and therefrom, and into the River Speed, set apart, &c, &c, and leased to them, as per section 15, of the Fisheries Act. - -

In obedience to your official instructions to me, I have the h[illegible], to report, that on thursday the 4th instant, I proceeded to Guelph, and at the G.W.R. station there, I met, Mr John Davidson, one of the petitioners, who drove me, with his Horse and Buggy, to Puslinch Lake, which is situated in the 1st Concession of the township of Puslinch, in the County of Waterloo, and Province of Ontario; 9 Miles, distance from Guelph. -

"The Hotel is on part of lot, No: 4, in 1st Concession of Puslinch, containing 1. Acre, which is situated on the Lake shore, and on the North bank of the Lake. -

I have here the honor of reporting for your information, that in Company with Mr John Davidson, who rowed me round the Lake, I made a careful, comprehensive examination and inspection of the Lake, its waters, springs, islands, and surroundings; and I was amazed at the clear, crystal appearance of its pure spring water, supplied from a Multitude of living springs, gushing up, and coming out of the gravel and stoney sand Hills, by which the Lake is surrounded. - -

"The sloping banks of the Lake, have still the primitive white Cedar, birch, tamarisk or tamarack, pine and other trees, adorning the same, down even to the waters edge, while coarse clean white stones and gravel is perceptible almost all round the beach of the Lake, reminding me of the cleanly and bright appearance of a Mcanly made

Salmon bed, which I am in the habit of seeing annually in Duffin's Creek, during the spawning season.

The bottom of the Lake, where I saw it, is in many places, a White sandy mud, interspersed with gravel, sand and small stones, similar to those which I observed on the beach on near the Lake shore.-

The Lake contains about 400, acres, as per plan hereunto, including the bays and marshes, of pure spring water.- The sources from which it springs being pure; the water in the Lake is never discoloured.-

The Lake contains an Island of 7. acres, of land, on which there was built many years ago, by a Revd Mr Cassidy, a Roman Catholic Clergyman, a small stone House, intended then, for religious purposes, but now in ruins.- The Lake is oval shaped.-

There is a small Island, called St Helens Island, another Sentinel Island, and another Gertrude Island; and there is one small Island, not yet named.-- I feel much pleasure in reporting that those Islands are still in their primitive state, with the Cedars, grape vines, larch, birch, pine, and Oak, &c, still growing undisturbed thereon.-

"The Lake, I should Judge is about 1¼ miles long, by 7 tho. of a mile wide. On the shore of the Big 7 acre Island, all round the bright white stones gravel and sand is observable.-

I may add further, Mr John Hamilton informed me, that a gravel bed, or gravel bar, extends from the Big Island, which is away, near the East end of the Lake, on the south side thereof, up the Centre of the Lake, for a distance of about 3/4 tho. of a mile, running due East, and West; This bar is about 150 yards wide, and on the south side of this bar, the Lake is about 60' feet or 10 fathoms deep.-

On the west end of the Lake, where a small rapid stream runs, out of it, it is swampy, and continues swampy n[illegible] all the way down to the River Speed, distance from the Lake about 1½ miles.- On the North side of the Lake, a little west of the Hotel, there is a small running stream about a 1/4. of a mile long, flowing from a smaller Lake, 3' ft. higher,

from Lake Puslinch, in which I observed a large bed of Marl.- This small Creek was made by the mutual Consent of the Land Owners, through which it passes and empties itself into Puslinch Lake.-

I considered it my duty, "hoping I have not trespassed on your time by doing so", to give you the foregoing facts for your own information.--

And I will now proceed to answer your questions, to the best of my ability.

1st Whether the waters in question, are at all adapted for the Breeding of fish?

In answer to this question, I have the honor to report, that my impression of mind at present is, that Puslinch Lake, is well adapted for the Natural propagation of fish.- And from enquiries made by me, I find it has had abundance of Bass, Sun fish, and perch therein, heretofore, in years gone bye.- On One occasion, several winters ago, the water got shallow, and the freezing being very severe that winter, the fish were frozen up, in the shallow water, and Killed by thousands.- This in fact, is a true statement of the Case.--

2nd What Kinds of fish, should be selected to restock the Lake?.-

In reply, I have the honor to report, that my belief is, that Puslinch Lake, is at present from the pure clear, clean state of its waters, and the pure sources from which those waters spring, a most fit receptacle for all Kinds of our good choice fish, "except salmon", viz.t Speckled trout, Black bass, Green bass, Rock bass, Speckled bass, White bass, and Oswego bass.- White fish, and Herring, Speckled and Blue Sun-fish.- My impression is, all those Kinds of fish, I have hereinabove given you, will breed and

increase in rapid abundance in Lake Pushwich; if a fair supply of parent fish, are placed therein, to restock it, and angling in the meantime is stopped for about 3 years, from 1st January 1881.—

Abundance of Herring fry, can be easilly procured, in the Niagara River, at Fort Erie, and the Town of Niagara.—

3rd Whether it would be more advisable to set those waters apart, than to lease them; and for how long should they so be set apart?

In reply to this, I have to report, that I will here take the liberty of recommending that Pushwich Lake, being the property of Dominion Government, and Marshes be set apart, for the Natural, and Artificial propagation of fish, for a period of 9 years, say, from 1st of January 1881, and that the same be leased to the petitioners, Messrs George Sleeman, and John Davidson, of the City of Guelph, for a like period of time, at the rate of $20, a year, payable on the 1st day of January in each year.— This amount I have agreed to, with Mr John Davidson, subject of course to your approval.— The first $20, to be paid on 1st of January 1881.—

The laudable object the petitioners have in view, catering for the public, with their Splendid Hotel, wharfs, Row Boats, and the pleasure Steamer "City of Guelph", &c. &c, procured at great expense, prompted me, to this course without delay or hesitation, moreover, I find nothing selfish in the petitioners, who themselves go so explicit into every thing, in their petition, To The Hon: The Minister.----

4th In the event of the Minister consenting to the Lake being set apart, what assistance, or inducements are the petitioners prepared to offer, to assist this department, in protecting it.——

In reply, I have the Honor to report, in Continuation of the above, that the petitioners will bind themselves, for to do all within their power, to assist the dept. to protect the fish in the Lake, and Small streams (2.) and will pray for the catching and Conveyance of all fish, the department may

permit their Fishery Officer to procure for them. — And will never permit any person to fish except legally, and only in all legal seasons. — No charge will be made by them for angling; Only a small charge for the use of their boats, a stock of which there will be always kept on hand.--

Messrs. Geo. Bleeman, and John Davidson, the petitioners will require permission from you to catch speckled trout, under the supervision of a Fishery Officer, during close season for restocking purposes. —

I would like very much, if permitted, and allowed by the Department to assist in the re=stocking of Puslinch Lake.- All the Bass, I have enumerated hereinabove are in abundance, and can be got in my division. - And the Petitioners say they will be at all times ready to assist, and pay for catching, and the carriage of the Fish, to the Lake.-

The fish procured, can be brought daily by Rail=way, to the Village of Stoufville, for restocking the Lake, which is situated therefrom, at a distance of only about 2 Miles over a smooth, level, gravel road. - I strongly recommend that you will be pleased to grant the prayer of the petitioners, for by doing so, the River Speed, and Grand River, will be also restocked, the waters of the Lake, and Speed running into the latter. —

All of which is Most Respectfully Sub-mitted, and recommended for your Consi=deration and approval. —

I Have, &c,

J W Kerr

F. O.

The Honble

The Minister,

F. F. F.

Wednesday, 10. November 1880.

Saw B. beach, saw David Fitch, who told me, that John Thomas saw Fred. Lovey fishing up a file in B. bay about 400. yards out in front of Murrays place; saw Photime Lovey. - went from thence to Minora to see Paddy Stand; saw Paddy, heard from him that he had got 4. White fish on this morning, went out at 10. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. Miles about 30. 54 + B. 2.50. dinner 25. Heard from Paddy Stand, that the fishing ground in front of the Queens Royal Hotel is a good ground. —

Postage stamps 25.

Spearing for Herring, &c, in Burlington Bay, and Dundas Marsh. - -

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Licenses for Spearing Herring, pike and bass; between the 15th day of November, and the 1st day of April 1881. can be be obtained from the undersigned on payment of One dollar. —

By Order,
J W Kerr
Fishery Overseer.

Hamilton, Ont.
10. November 1880.

Charles John Kerr, returned home from Sandwich today. Borrowed off 5. from Mr James Morrin, for to pay his fare home. — Went up there on the 6th of November instant. —

J W Kerr Jr.

19. November 1880.

postages 25.

Sir, 12. November 1880.

I have just received, the following answer to my report, dated 27th of August last, together with The Hon: The Minister, reply to the petition of Mr David McKinnon, Reeve, and the Township Council of Caledon, praying to have the Credit River, exempt from the operations of the Statutes respecting Saw dust and Mill rubbish. — Copies of which, I now send you, and you will please observe and govern Continue to enforce the Law. —

I am, Sir,
Your Obt Servant,
J. W. Kerr
Fishery Overseer.

To, Andrew Stughson Esqre
Fishery Overseer,
Orangeville, Ont

Here follows, Copies of letters to D. McKinnon Reeve, and J. W. Kerr, F.O,

My dear Sir, 11. Nov: 1880.

I am in receipt of yours of the 10th inst. with plan and tracing of Pushuch Lake, and Broken front lots, butting on the same. —

I have now completed my report, and sealed the letter, addressed to the "Department of Marine and Fisheries", Ottawa, "Fisheries Branch".

My report contains six pages of Foolscap, so you may imagine all I have written. — I would like very much, if not too much trouble to get from you a similar plan to the one sent off to Ottawa. Believe me, Yours Fraternally,

John Davidson Esqre
M. P. P.

J. W. Kerr,
F.O.

Sir,

12, November 1880,

In submitting the annexed Report, I may add, that all the farms, surrounding Buslwich Lake, only go to the waters edge.— The Lake is consequently a portion of the public waters of Canada.—

In conversation with Mr John Davidson, one of the petitioners on the 4th instant, I recommended him for to procure a Tracing of the Lake, and adjacent farms, for your information, and satisfaction.— This plan I have now much pleasure in sending with my report.— And you will please find the acreage of the Lake entered thereon, as well as Broken Front lots, butting on the same; and all of which is certified "a true Copy", of the Original Plan and Survey,— by Thos: St. Johnson, Assistant Commissioner, Crown Lands, Ontario, at Toronto; and from whom the same was received by Mr Davidson, for the purpose herein set forth.— All of which is now respectfully submitted and recommended.— I Have, &c,

J. W. Kerr,
Forester.

The Honble
The Minister of,
&c, &c, &c,

Saturday, 13. November 1880.—

On B. Beach, to procure a House for the Dutchman Francis Portunia, saw Mrs Shaw, Dolly Waddell, about a House, saw John Hayle, about F. N. Corey, fishing in the Bay, John Hayle, told me John Thomas, saw the person fishing up the Gill Net, Met Fred: Corey, who asked permission for to haul his Seine for a gun, lost by his son in law Robert Webster — who had like to be drowned, when he dropped the Gun, I promised to do so, just nice calm day, went out at 1. p. m. came in at 6.30. p. m. Met Ches 30. H. B. $2.50. C. J. Kerr.— Duncan McGillivray rented my House Met. paid him 50¢ — Stationery 50¢.

My dear Mr. Leary, 14. November 1880.-

Mr. Whitcher, Commissioner of Fisheries, when passing from Long point, between Port dover, and Hamilton, on his way to Ottawa;- requested me to send you as a Loan, my Hoop Net, that I occasionally use for catching fish, for restocking fished out, and exterminated waters; so that you may be in a position to catch and provide fish, for the Gentlemen Members of the Long point Company, when enjoying themselves Duck shooting, &c. &c.

I have been also directed by Mr. Whitcher, to enclose you a License, free, for fishing the same, within the waters Comprising the Long point, Company's limits, and I hope to learn occasionally, that you have been able to furnish the House with choice good fish every day....

Since I began to write this Note, something is urging me, all the time, Here, Here!- give the Long point Company the Hoop Net, altogether, present it, to them, so that they may have always on hand abundance of good fish....

So acting upon the Liberal feelings at present pervading my mind and thoughts, I have come, at once, to the Conclusion of asking you to do me a favour; thus:- please present the Hoop Net, to the President, Directors, Secretary, and Members of the Long point Company, as a small token of my warm regard, and esteem, and may every success attend them, "and you", in all their undertakings. I had the Net, overhauled today, it is as you will find, in good order, and when properly set, will always catch fish in abundance.

I have tied it carefully up, so you be careful in untying it, handle it carefully, it will all unroll, and when not fishing, you must dry it, carefully and well before it is put bye; and when you are setting it, preserve your temper!. The tail of the bag, must always be upstream, secured by the running string of the purse

or tail, to a long pole, which you will have to push into the bottom; the wings will then be taken, one to each side of the stream, on the wings you will find two strings, one on the Cork line, and one on the lead line; tie each of those strings, to another long pole at such a distance, as the width of each wing of the Net, will allow, and tie the lead line a Couple or three feet, from the bottom of each wing pole, so that when you push the poles in to the mud or bottom, the lead lines will rest on the bottom, while Cork line, being tied so much higher up on the poles will keep the wings floating in the water up off the bottom. – It will take two persons for to set the Net, and a Couple or three, to take the fish out. – "The easiest way to get the fish out is to pull up, first, the wings poles, and let them float, on the water, then having a man at the tail pole, he pulls it up, slips the loop of the running string off the pole, and opens out wide the purse of the Net, on the running string, in the purse of the Net, when all the fish, every one, will be made you, or One or two assistants to dip into your Boat. – Should you not set the net this fall, "having to procure 3. long Cedar polls", cleaned and stripped of the bark. – I will show you, how to set the Net, and fish it up myself, whenever, I come up again. – And with my regards, and respects, believe me,

Wm Leary Esqre
Steward,
Long Point.

Yours fraternally.
J. W. Kerr.
F.A.

"Private, and Confidential". –

"Memorandum". – On the 25th of October last, I made my report and recommended your re-appointment on Long point, I expect it here daily; when I will at once communicate with you. –

I send you the Hoop Net, today, be careful of it, and when put bye, for Winter, hang up, fold it up, just as I now send it to you. – So that Mice will not get at it, to cut it up. – –

I thought it would be more pleasing to you all, and Mr Whitehead advised me, "but dont say so to any one", to give you the Net altogether. – –

Mr W. told me, you are to send him him, some ducks, later on in the season, and as I had to give some away for him, he had given me, he told me to ask you to give me some from those you are to send him; perhaps!, it may be in your power to get a few pair, for me yourself, and let all his go on.

I will want from you, in account; all the Kinds of fish speared, and caught by anglers, and Stocks, on Long point, during this year, – this you can do, and send me at once, lest I may require it, for my annual report further on, near Xtmas, when I may not then, be able to get it, or hear from you.

Mr Whitehead went home highly pleased, that he was so well treated, especially by you, Harry should have returned, and stood by him. –

Conductor Weatherson, will take up the Net, and this letter, so that you may get it, on the arrival of the Boat on Monday. –

And now Bill, My dear Fellow, and Brother Mason, Keep steady, and live a sober life, and give my Kind regards to your wife, and that fine young man, your nice mannerly well bred boy, your Son Billy,

Believe me, Yours Fraternally

Wm Leavey Esqre
Steward, Long Point.

J W Kerr Hamilton
15. Nov 1880.

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 10th instant, duly received, and I thank you, for your kindness, and attention to my son Charles.—

I am about to get up a small fish Breeding place at Niagara, hence why he visited you at all.— I am sorry he did not remain until after you had laid down all your Eggs.—

Stomach! we cant help those things.—

I will come up early next month, when you will I expect, have every thing in Apple pie Order,.— I want to imitate your Hatchery, in my small way, whatever I may do.— hence why my first visit is, or will be made to Sandwich.— You, and I, can then talk over matters and things, and I can explain to you what I want, and you can tell me all I will require.— I Have the Lot, and good running springs and a House 100 feet long, by 24 feet wide.— This is exactly, how I just stand, as regards fish breeding at present.— And I dont intend going any further until I go up, see your Establishment, and find out from you all the Rest,

I would like to be ready on a small scale, to try my hand on pickerel next april.—

Until I see you, take good Care of yourself, and with my best wishes for your welfare and prosperity

Believe me, Yours Sincerely,

James Nevin Esqre, Hackner F.M.

The Hatchery

Sandwich.

15. Nov: 1880.

Monday, 15. November 1880.-

At S. Bridge, Queenston, and Niagara, found all regular, before leaving Hamilton sent letter and Hoop Net to Wm Leary Esqre Steward, Long point, Lake Erie, went out at 6.30. a.m. came in at 4.30. p.m. Miles 60. - - -

Telegraph, 32¢. Ry fare $1.50¢, dinner 50¢, Team $3.00¢ Tea and bed 50¢.

Tuesday 16. November 1880, - - -

At Niagara all day. Board Tr $1. - - 3, Miles.

Wednesday, 17. November 1880. —

At Niagara, S: Bridge, and Hamilton, all regular. went out at 8. a.m, came in at 3. p.m. Miles 60. Ry fare $2.00¢, Breakfast 25¢. H & B. $1.50¢.

Thursday, 18. November 1880.

At Clarksons Corners, thence to the Indian Village, thence to Port Credit, and on home, back to Hamilton, James Reid told me that he had seen 2, large Salmon in River Credit, on 26. September, below Smiths House, and 4, more a few days afterwards, near the Willows, in deep water, and that a large salmon run through one of his pike gill Nets, last spring. -

Jas: G. Wilcox, also gave me a statement of Salmon he had seen. Ry fare $2, H & B: $1.50¢, dinner 25¢. Miles 60..

Friday, 19. November 1880.

On B. Heights, for to issue Spearing Licenses, No person at first prepared to take out any. Lewis Mills and Billy Rasberry, growling about the fishermen setting Nets in L. Ontario, on B. Beach; preventing the fish from coming into the Bay.

Wanted a free license this year, and leave for to spear pike up to the 1st of March next; others prepared to grey

went out 2. p. m. came in at 9. p. m. Miles 8. H & B. 2.
Supper for two, 50¢. Bills 14¢. E Kerr

22. November 1880.

My dear Sir, Will you be pleased to let me have as soon as convenient, the quantity of speckled trout in Barrels, caught by anglers in your division, during this current season; also the market value of the same. — How many persons you have had fined, for breaking the fisheries act; and for what offence, the fine was imposed, and if speckled trout are on the increase. — If the saw Mill Owners obey the Law, in Keeping out of the streams, saw dust, and Mill rubbish. — I wish to give you a place in my annual Report, hence why it is, that I trespass on you. With my best regards to Mrs Hall, and family, Believe me, — Yours &c.

W. Hall Esqre
Fishery Overseer.

J. W. Kerr,
F. O.

P.S. I want to have it in my power to say something (if any) in your behalf, on Trout. — Also, state how many Trout, you have in your ponds, alive, and if you have any Eggs down Hatching, and how many. —

J. W. Kerr — F. O.

Tuesday, 23. November 1880. — —

At Minona, and B: Beach, getting up my annual Returns, went out 9. a. m. came in at 6.30. p. m. Miles 32. Horse and Buggy $2.50¢. dinner 25¢.

Jack Taffe, considered his Brother Dick, had caught at least, $300. worth of fish. — —

Wednesday, 24. November 1880. —

On B. Heights, thence around the Plains to get up annual Returns of fish caught by Fishermen on B. Beach, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 6.15. p. m. Miles 30. H & B. 2.50, dinner 50¢, Bills 25¢. E. Kerr

My dear Mr Hughson. 22, November 1880.

Will you be so good as to send me an account, "as near as you can arrive at it", of the quantity of speckled trout, say in Barrels, and the Market value of the same, caught by Anglers, during this year, in your division. — Also the Number of persons you have had fined, and the amount fined in the aggregate; for breaches of the fisheries act, placing each fine, under the particular offence for which the fines were imposed. — —

State too, if the Mill owners show a disposition to keep out saw dust and Mill rubbish at their Saw Mills. — And if there is a disposition on the peoples part, to obey the fishery law.

I wish to give you a corner in my "Annual Rept", hence why I am obliged to trouble you. —

Give me please all other particulars on fishing or the increase of the fish (trout.) — your division, Number of Miles, travelled during 1880, on active duty; and the Names of the Townships "if you have not been already appointed to them", you wish to have official control over. —

And with my warm regard and respects, to Mrs Hughson, your Son and daughter. —

Believe me, Yours Sincerely,

Andrew Hughson Esqre
Fishery Overseer,
Grangeville Co^ty

J W Kerr F.O.

My dear Joe, 22. November 1880.

As soon, as you stop fishing, will you be so good as to send me, an account of all the fish, caught by you, and father, during this current year; thus! –

1. Sturgeon, 2. Pickerel, 3. Herring, 4. Suckers & Mullets, 5. White fish, 6. Bass, and all other kinds of fish, and their Market value. –

Also send me an account, caught by John Wadsworth, Machine. –

And with warm regards to your wife, & father, believe me,

Yours truly,

Mr Jos: Gabriel Jr
Queenston

J. W. Keen
Hickory Corners

22. Nov: 1880,

My dear Harry, As soon, as you stop Lake Hauling, will you be so good as to send me the total account of all fish, caught by you during this current season thus! –

1. Sturgeon, 2. Pickerel, 3. Herring, 4. Suckers and Mullets, 5. White fish, 6. Bass, and all other kinds of fish, and market value of all. –

And with my warm regards to Mrs Shepperd and your daughter, and the boys,

believe me

Yours Gratefully

J. W. Keen Jr.

22, Nov 1880

Harry Shepperd Esq
Queenston,

My dear friend Blackman, —

Will you be so good on receipt of this, to make out your return of all the kinds of fish caught by you this year, and send it to me too. —

Keep white fish, Bass, pike, Herring & Trout fish each by themselves, separate and distinct from one another. —

All the rest, such as Catfish, mullets, suckers, sturgeon, perch, bream fish, &c, may be all put together, under the head of "rough fish".

And with my best wishes for your respects, believe me,

Yours Truly,

J. McKean J.P.,

Hamilton, Ont.

22. Nov: 1880.

Mr Robert Elliot,
Fishermen
Jordan Station,
P. Office

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to send me a return of all the fish you caught during this year. —

Keep White fish, Bass, and Herring by themselves also the pike. — Sturgeon, Catfish, pickerel, perch, suckers, mullets, bream fish and any other rough fish, may be all placed together, under the head of rough fish. —

And please send me an acct of all your Nets each kind by themselves, the number of your Boats, and what kind of Nets regards to your fishing.

Believe me Yours Truly

J. McKean

J.P.

22. Nov: 1880.

My dear Sir,

I intend coming down to Pt Dalhousie on next Thursday by the Morning Train. Will you be so good as to meet me at the [illegible], take dinner with me there, and give me your return of fish, caught, of all kinds, boats and Nets together with every other important matter and thing for the good of our fisheries. — —

And with my kind regards and respects to Mrs Nott and family, believe me, Yours sincerely,

Mr Peter Nott,
Fisherman
Port Dalhousie, —

J W Kerr [illegible]
22 Nov 1880

Immediate,

My dear Woollard. —

Will you be pleased, to let me know at your earliest Convenience, the amount of all Kinds of fish, caught by you, during this year; also the value and number of Boats you have on hand; "Each separate",

The value of your Seine. — How many yards of White fish gill net on hand; pike gill Nets on hand; And Hoop Nets, and their value; and any other Kind of Nets, you may have in use, and oblige,

Yours Sincerely,
J. W. Kerr
Fishery Overseer
Hamilton,
24. Nov: 1880.

Mr W. B. Woollard,
Fisherman.
Leslieville,

Thursday, 25. November 1880. —

At St Catharines, got returns from Dutch Pete, of his annual take for year 1880, — went out at 8. a.m. came in at 5.30. p.m. Miles 74. Ry fare, $2.00 & dinner for two 80¢, Buss, 30¢, S&B, 1.50¢, $4.40 3.80

Mr James W. Keating; paid me $4.60 being $2.50 & 1/2 fine on Peter Hath, 1.60¢, costs, and 50¢ 1/2 fine on Man at London. — —

Sir, 26. November 1880.

I have the honor to apply to you, for a cheque, for One Hundred and twenty dollars, for to pay the Salmon Guardians, viz:,

On Dull'ins Creek. $120. —

On receiving the cheque, I will pay off the Guardians, get receipts in duplicate, and transmit the same at once to the Department.

"The show of parent Salmon, in "Dulfins Creek", during the spawning season, was very satisfactory. — And with due respect.

The Honble
The Minister, } I have &c,
&c, &c, &c. } Inspector,
&c.

Sunday, 28. November 1880.

At Jacques Inlet, looking round, found all right, went out at 9.30. a.m. came in at 12. mid-day. Miles 6. S&B. 1.50¢,

Stationery 15¢.

Sir,

26, November 1880. —

I have the honor to report, that owing to Burlington Bay, being frozen up, much earlier this year, than it has been during previous years; when I attended a Meeting at Mrs Wheelers, Hotel, on B. Heights, on Friday, the 19th instant; I did not on discussing the matter, deem it advisable for to issue licenses for spearing Herring, for the reason hereinabove set forth. —

Messrs Wm Rasberry, and Lewis Miles, farmers, resident in Flamboro East, tried by very unbecoming language, towards the Government, to make things unpleasant, and the statements made by them, were both false and unfounded; why! they went so far, as to demand that no Herring Gill nets, should be fished nearer to the B. Canal; than Fruitly, which is about 16. Miles away; And that no licenses should be issued to the Fishermen, on B. Beach, for to fish Herring Gill Nets, any more in Lake Ontario; as it ruined the Spearing; They were not like the fishermen, they said! who sold their fish, as they only fished, "Spear", for sport. — They also exclaimed against the Seines being fished by Burlington Beach fishermen, in Lake Ontario. — "For farmers dont live by fishing said Rasberry". — —

I send you an article, I cut from the Hamilton Times of 23rd instant, referring to the Meeting held at Mrs Wheelers; and I may Candidly state for your information, that no person at that Meeting threatened to assault me. — And all the rest of the article, so far as persons refusing to take out licenses, and B. Beach fisherman placing nets across the Burlington Canal, at B. Beach, barring out the Herring, from the Bay, has not a particle of truth about it. —

I found the annexed letter, in the Hamilton Times of the 25th instant, from Captain Thomas Campbell, the Light House Keeper, at B. Canal, who gives his views and facts about gill net fishing in B. Canal. — —

Last year, the Herring Spearing in open water was bad, the bloody water, and rough weather being against it. —

This winter, the Bay, is frozen up before Herring come in to spawn. — I would therefore respectfully recommend

for your consideration, that no spearing for Herring, be permitted any more in B. Bay, and Dundas Marsh, until the Ice forms — A spawning time must henceforth be kept. —

And with your permission, I will submit for your consideration, that spearing for pike and Bass, be stop continued up to, and within the same dates as last Winter, and last spring. — —

There are a great many decent, respectable men, who spear during winter; through the Ice, and while away the time having no fixed employment, nor a farm to fall back upon, like Mills and Rosberry. —

And are manly enough to tell me, they spear, to make something of it. —

And with due respect.

The Honble
Hector Langevin,
V. V. V.

I Have &c.,
J. W. Kerr,
J. P.

Monday. 29. November 1880. —

1, ✓ At the Heights. Larry Mitchell, paid $1. for the privilege
2 of spearing, Jack[2] Quail, 50. on acct. the balance he
3 will leave at Mrs Wheelers. — Thomas[3] Weaver, paid $1.
and 4, and Wm[4] Payne $1. for the privilege of spearing in B. bay, and
Speared this day. Dundas Marsh, up 20 of April 1881. — went out at 9.30. a. m.
came in at 2. p. m. Miles 10. 84 & B. 2.00. Tolls 15.
E. Kerr with me. — — —

Sir,

26. November 1880,

I have the honor to apply to you, for the purpose of being rated on my salary, for superannuation pay; the same as I find the Samuel Wilmot, the W. H. Venning, and the C. R. Venning, are rated on their salaries in the public accounts, published for the year 1879. –

I am I believe, one of the oldest outside officers, in the Fisheries department, having now completed nearly 16. years, in the service; and I hope to your satisfaction and the department. –

And altho' always in good health, and able to do my duty, still should any accident befall me, whereby I became, disabled, incapacitated, and unable to work, after long services rendered, I feel now, looking still forward, I ought and should have something solid, to fall back upon, –

I hope this matter will be now kindly received by you, and favourably considered, by the Hon: The Minister. –

And with due respect,

I Have &c.

J W Sam

F.O.

W. F. Whitcher Esqre
Comr: of Fisheries. –
Ottawa. – – –

Wednesday. 1st December 1880. –

At the Heights, gave out licenses to Silas Wheeler, paid $1.– and to George Pole, Wm Payne, Jack Quaile, Thos: Weeser, Larry Mitchell; applications made for Samuel Smoke and Jacob Orr, got pass from Mr R. R. Waddell to pass Toll gate on the Heights, free, went out 9. a. m. came in at 2.30. p. m. Miles 10. down as far as Wentworth Street $ ¢ 1.50.

Private,

My dear Stull: I am in receipt of your letter of 24th instant, regretting that you had sent in your Annual Report, to Ottawa; you should have sent it to me; please refer to my letter to you of the 24th September last, thus: "Please tell Stull, to transact all his little business thro' you."

I suppose it is, because they have so much to do, at Ottawa, that I was instructed as above; this language will do you no harm, so be particular in obeying the above order in future, as you will suffer nothing in my hands; What Mr Bassett, of the Fishery department, Ottawa, says, he always means it. —

Such is my experience of him, for nearly 16, years. —

I may here however tell you, that on the evening of 22nd instant, after I had sealed my letter to you, I received your Report, from Ottawa, with a Memorandum therein thus: "Send this to Mr Kerr, to be made use of, in connection with his own report, if deemed advisable." S. P. B.

Please let me know, how much it cost you, for going four times, around your division, during the year, and what is the present amount of salary, per year, you receive,

And believe me, Yours truly,

J W Kerr
F. O.

Hamilton, Ont.
27. Nov: 1888.

Sir

26. November 1880. –

I Have the honor to report, that I have been considering for some time past, provided it meet the approval of the Department, if it would not be advisable for me to apply to The fisheries department, for a fishery in the Niagara River, in the Town of Niagara, to be leased for 9. years, by one of my sons; if this matter was favorably received, and approved of by you --- I feel satisfied, a Seine hauling fishery could be established, after some expense was incurred in clearing the ground; say, from the slip in the Niagara River, up to the Old Ferry, river frontage say about 300 yards. –

There is a row of Oak piles driven, for about this distance, along the edge of the River, say, about 6' feet high, each pile being close together, out of water: driven there, by the Canada Southern Railway Coy, and behind which there was built a Railroad Track, many years ago, but this Railway still remains, as it was then being constructed unfinished, and I suppose a life time will pass, before it will be utilized for Railway purposes. – Along this embankment or more properly, on the bank of the River, as I may call it, a person, then in charge of the Seine line, could walk along, while a Boat, with fishermen therein, went round in the River, while casting out the Seine. –

A place will require to my mind, to be made for hauling in, and in doing this, a portion of the Oak piles, will require to be cut off, down at the waters edge, and a platform erected, upon which to complete the hauls. ---

If some extraordinary obstacles are not found in the River, this I would I believe, make a good fair, Starring fishery. – No person has ever attempted to haul a Seine on this fishing ground.

Then again, in front of the Queens Royal Hotel, from Mr Thomas Mills, Boat House, down to the north end of "Old Fort Mottasaunga", for a distance of about 1.000, yards, River frontage, no Seine fishing has been carried on there, for several years, there is large stones on it. – This ground is included in Mr Thos: Elliots annual license, still he has not fished on it for several years, leaves it, as it were, as a kind of reserve, as he says! –

for fish to accumulate upon, before going up the River, on to the Seine hauling ground, where Mr Elliot does fish and haul annually, in the River. — Mr Elliot has another Seine hauling ground, north of the old fort, where he fishes a Seine every spring. — This will make a good Seine hauling ground, if Mr Elliot can be convinced, that hauling there, will not injure his own River haul, further up, and next to it, — —

I state everything, as your Fishery Overseer, fair, and above board, even if it is, that one of my own sons, will be the applicant for this fishery. — — —

If a good ground can be found, and made in either of those places as above, or in both, I believe it will pay the Lessee. — For by smoking fish, and by preserving fish, when prices are low, something can be made. —

I make this application at the present time, in behalf of my sons Edward and Charles Kerr, as the case may be, for those fishing grounds, and when they are examined will pay on the amount of annual Rent. —

If there is no objection for my son having a fishing ground in the Niagara River, in the Town of Niagara, I would like to hear from you at your convenience. — And with due respect,

W. H. Whitelaw Esqre
C. of Fisheries, &c. &c,
Ottawa.

I have the
honor
to
Sir,

Friday. 3. Dec: 1880. —

On B. Heights, and B. bay. 8. fishing boxes out on bay, near B. beach: vizt John Bates. Thos: Jones. S. W. Waterbury. Dave Fitch. John Fitch. John Haynes. Dan: McGuyne, and John Stargel: on the Dundas Marsh. Dan: Young. Larry Mitchell, John Anderson Jr. and Lewis Mills. and on Bay at Heights Alfred Lyons and Wm Wayne. Sam: Smoke paid off!. and

Sir.

30, November 1880,

I send you the copy of an application, I have this day, received from Messrs Alderson, agent, and Frank Jackson, a fisherman, at Port Dover; "For found Net fishing grounds in Lake Erie, near Port Dover".—

I would require to go up there, and examine personally into everything referred to, before reporting to you on the subject; I may here say, that I be=lieve with your permission, and consent; I can make better terms, more in the interest of the department, than has been done up there heretofore, for the last few years.—

"I would not now refer here to this, only of your intention of re=appointing me back, to that part of my old division".—

"This thing of selling fishing grounds, "assuming rights, not tenable",— should not be tolerated by you.—

A New found Net can now be procured, at ½ the cost, including the piles, and setting that it was a few years ago.— Knitting is all done now a days by machinery, and there is no duty on the twine or thread coming in to Canada, nothing, save an entry to be paid for.—

W. H. Whitelaw Esqre
Commissioner of Fisheries,
Ottawa.—

I Have &c.
J. Wicke
Jr.

Here follows:—Copy the Letter...

"Thursday. 2. December 1880.—

At Toronto, to get up returns, the Ice was so bad, could not get over to the Island, went out at 9. A. m. came in at 6.30. p. m. Miles 86. My fare 2.00 dinner 40. N.Y.B. 1.50.—

Lewis Mills paid $1. Alfred Lyons $1. Geo: Bole $1. and Charley Smith $1.—Jno: Anderson Jr. 50 ¢. went out at 9. a. m. came in at 7. p. m. Miles 32. N.Y. and B. 2.50

See back to last page

Saturday, 4. December 1880. - - -

At Brouts, and Port Credit, getting up my Annual returns, &c, saw Billy Ingledew, Dick Joyce, Bob Joyce, James Joyce, and Willy Joyce: - The catch of Lisco, is very good: saw W. D. Pollock, who gave me an account of the Fishing at Brouts, for 1880. — "Ho Hanny": until next week, or so towards Xmas. - -

Saw Jas: J. Wilcox, at Port Credit, nothing new! went out at 5.45. a. m, came in at 5.15. p. m, Miles 64. My fare 2.00. dinner 50. Stg B, 1.50

Hamilton, 6. Dec: 1880.

My dear Sir, - As agreed to, I now send you, Post office Order, for "£20." twenty dollars. - -

If you have anything particular to report about the Salmon, will you be pleased to do so, on receipt; or if any suspicious people were about the Mouth of the Creek, since I saw you. - or if any person has caught any Salmon, during the spawning time in 1879, or during last fall, giving names, so far as you may have learned or heard; and with kind regards. —

Mr Thomas Fields,
Pickering,
Post office,

Yours, Yours truly.
J. W. Kerr
F. Emerson,

My dear Gordon,

I send you, a post Office Order for $80, to pay yourself, and your Son in law, Mr William T. Hartrick, who aided, and assisted you to watch and protect the spawning salmon in Duffins Creek, during the spawning season.. I should like to get a letter from Mr Thomas Fields, so as to ascertain what he has done, for twenty dollars, which I have also sent him. –

I am greatly obliged to you, for securing for me, my boat, the paddle oars, and row locks, The just opportunity you have, got the boat, &c, brought up from Mr Fields, place it in your own Boat House, where you can have it, to use occasionally, and where Squire Buntings, sons; can always have the use of it, Mr Thos: Fields, will not require it, any more until next fall.

I am much obliged to you and Mr Hartrick, for your diary, but from beginning, to end; neither he, nor you say! whether the Salmon were large or small, big or little. – –

I will thank you, to write me a long letter, giving me every particular, because it is absolutely necessary to have a full, and sufficient account of this kind in my own possession. –

I am aware, and I remember that you told me, the Salmon, that just came in, were the largest fish, you had ever seen in the Creek, if so! why not put it in writing. –

Has any Salmon been pilfered from the Creek, and if not, say so. –

I want to be in a position myself so as to be able to express myself, in my Annual Report, on every subject, as regards you, and your two Assistants. – –

Please tell Mr Dan: Lewis, I will pay him, for his services on the 26th and 27th of October last. –

I find by your diary, on 25th of October, you have it entered; "Went to the mouth of the Creek, with J. W. Kerr." This entry is wrong, I was not in Duffins Creek, on Monday 25th of October, but I was there, on tuesday 26th of October 1880. – So you see how very

particular, we should be in all things, as public servants, with the eyes of the public, always on us, — I send you a copy of the entry entered in my diary, as proof positive of what I say; thus it is, that we should make entries, as they happen. —

I hope you are all well, give my kind regards to Squire Bunting, and believe me,

Yours truly.

J. W. Scott,

John London Esq.re Sr.
H. Blacksmith,
Hutchins Creek.

J. Emerson,
6. Dec: 1880. —

My dear Mr. Brandybrook,

Have you heard of my salmon, been seen in Lynn Creek, last October or November; please let me know soon; and also the quantity of fish, pike, bass, herring, catfish, or White fish, you have caught during this year. — Also! the amount caught, by the Jas: White, and oblige an old friend. — How is Billy Oneile? —

And with my best and warmest regards and respects to you, and yours, Believe me. —

Yours truly,

J. W. Scott,

J. Emerson,
6. Dec: 1880.

John Brandybrook Esq.re
Blacksmith,
Whitby, Ont.

My dear Mr Cantwell,

I have just received a letter from Dick Wootton, that boy, who was fishing with Mr Martin Morrison;— "For fishing hooks and lines, in the Niagara River, without a license; and that he and two others, seized half the lines, and hooks; and now has them in his possession for me"?—

Please tell him; I am much obliged to him, for seizing these hooks and lines; for me.— Martin Morrison, nor no other man can fish in any of the waters of Ontario, without having a license from the fishing department, Ottawa.—

Under Section 13, of the fishing act, Martin Morrison, can be fined for fishing within another fishermen's licensed limits of 100, in Costs, or 2, Months in St Catherines Gaol.—

Then Morrison, can be fined if he fishes the hooks, and lines between six o'clock, on Saturday night, and 6, o'clock, a.m. on the following monday morning:— See sub sec: 14, of section 13, of the Fishing act:— Even suppose he had a license.——

And by reference to sub section 4, of section 16, at page 13, fishing act, Dick Wootton, was in all respects perfectly and legally justified in making the seizure, for delivery to me, as a Magistrate, under the Fishing act:— thus! "And may be "seized and confiscated on view by any fishery officer, or taken "and removed by any person for delivery to any Magistrate, and "the proceeds of disposal thereof may be applied towards de="fraying expenses under this act"?—

Thus! you will perceive, that you have just advised Dick Wootton, in the right direction, when you directed him, to report, and write to me.——

So you will please tele Dick, to hand over the Hooks, and Lines, to you, for me; in the mean time, and keep quiet about them, until I come down, and get them from you, myself.—

Wootton, need not be in the least dread of Martin Morrison getting out a Warrant, if any Magistrate should

sfue a Warrant, Wootton has only to apply to me, at once, and I will take him out of it: — Because as you are aware; — "Fishing by means of Nets, and other appa=ratus; (Hooks and lines) except under Leases or Licenses, from the department of Marine and Fisheries, is prohibited in all the waters of the Province of Ontario";

I dont think Mr Kelly will sfue a Warrant, without consulting me. — Everything I have granted is the Law of the Land. —

You will therefore oblige me, by reading over this letter to Richard Wootton, and at the same time, thank him for me, in behalf of the action taken by him, and his two Companions in their endeavours, to put down illegal fishing. —

And believe me,

Yours. &c. &c,

Jas: Cantwell. —
Fishermans. —
Muskoka, Ont. §

J. W. Kerr,
Fishery Overseer.
6. Dec: 1880.

My dear Hull, Yours of 6th, just received; please sign the enclosed Vouchers, in duplicate, with your Name, on the line, where I have written with pencil, and return the same to me again. —

I will try and get you some of your Expenses. — Only sign your Name, "Wm Hull" that is all that is necessary. I will do all the rest myself.

Yrs &c,

J. W. Kerr J.P.

9. Dec. 1880.

Wm Hull Esqre
H. Overseer
Gravenhurst
Ont.

Sir,

6. December 1880.–

I have the honor, to send you herewith, Bank draft, #0:111, for Ten dollars.–

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for Spearing Licenses issued for Dundas Marsh, and Burlington Bay, for to Spear Herring, Bass, pike, &c, &c, between the 15th day of November, 1880,– and the 20th day of April 1881. viz.

1.	Lewis Miles,	Flamboro East	1.00.
2.	Albert Lyons,	Flamboro West	1.00.
3.	George Giles,	Hamilton.–	1.00.
4.	Charles Smith,	do.–	1.00.
5.	John Anderson, Jr	do.– on apt.	–.50.
6.	Samuel Smoke,	Flamboro East	1.00.
7.	Silas Wheeler,	Hamilton.–	1.00.
8.	Lary Mitchell,	Flamboro East	1.00.
9.	Thomas Dreaver,	Hamilton...	1.00.
10.	William Payne.–	do.–	1.00.
11.	Jack Quaile.–	do, on apt	–.50.
		Total.	$10.00

The
Honble
The Minister
&c &c &c

I have, &c,
J. W. Kerr
F. Cuseer.

Friday, 10. December 1880.–

On B. beach, and B. bay, out on Bay, got $3, viz 2 one from Henry Waterbury $1. from John Hagle, and one dollar, from Maurice Gray.–

Gave out licenses to Wm: McGuyne, John Hagle, Thomas Jones, Henry Waterbury, David Fitch, John Fitch and John Dynes.– John Dynes paid up in fish, went out at 9. a.m. came in at 6. p.m. Miles 24. 14 B. $2.00. dinner 50ct K. Kerr with me

J W Kerr,

Copy. -

Dear Sir, -

Turkey Point, Dec. 2. 1880. -

I received yours of Oct. 26. but have not seen Mr Greening yet. the shooting closed very early, on account of cold weather, and I did not get the ducks, I promised to send you ---- Now as to the ranges in their present condition I am unable to do any fishing at all. I made one haul, only, and caught 20' fish, while the others are doing medium good fishing, unless something is done immediately to straighten the ranges, I dont know what to do, as I am in very poor circumstances having had no fishing at all this season. - The Hauls are all clear, enough now to fish, when weather is good enough, and doing well, but mine. - Now! Mr Kerr, if it is possible for you to come at once, do come, for I dont want to lose the winter fishing, else I shall starve. - I understand Mrs Ferris, has enlarged her Seine to 750 yards, to hold all the Ground; Stelmer has enlarged his also, and they defy you - Bingham, or the Government to change the ranges. -

I paid Mr Bingham the $10, back rent he claimed, that I owed. - I have not yet received the Leases, for the Willow haul or for the Inner Bay haul, for which I hold receipts for payment. -

Under no circumstances unless the ranges can be changed very soon. - I wish to ask your recommendation to Mr Larry, that I be allowed to fish with my Seine at Nyersea Island, during the open weather this winter, I think I could do very well there, but I can do nothing here, till the ranges are changed, and a letter from you to Mr Larry would get me this privilege without any further trouble.

3

please advise me at once what will be done. —

Should you come, Black has some particulars about Pound fishing, for White fish, during close season, and I can tell you more when you are here, Lucy is anxious you should come, also with regard to ranges, they commenced fishing 3 weeks ago, and are doing fairly, I've done no fishing since. —

Yours respectfully,

Signed. Wm Snook.

Sir,

7. Dec: 1880.

I have the honor to submit for your immediate consideration, and adjudication, the enclosed a letter I have just received from Mr Wm Snook, a fisherman and resident on Turkey point, L. Erie; requiring immediate having made ranges of the changes in the Seine hauling grounds there now being fished. . . .

I also, as you are aware, and may remember, received a letter from Mr Wm Snook, to the same effect, dated 11th of October last, — — — — — — — — — This letter I handed you for perusal on your way to Long point. —

It was then ordered (verbally) by you that I was to get, Mr Bingham — F.O. there, and fix ~~the~~ Ranges. ※ I went to Turkey point, on the 18th of October, and remained there until the afternoon of 19th of October; but no Mr Bingham put in his appearance. — From the tenor of Mr Wm Snooks letter now enclosed, this appears to be a matter, requiring to be at once finally settled. — —

※ Hy I endeavoured to do, as ※

I have therefore the honor to recommend that you will be pleased to empower me to go up there and which Mr B. was ordered to do, in conformity with my report to the dept. dated 9th June 1880. — at once, and I will undertake to fix the ranges in the outer Bay. —

that you will please order. ※

And I also beg most respectfully to recommend that no Seine fished at T. point, shall square 500 yards. — and with due respect.

I have &

W. J. Whitcher Esqre
C. of Fisheries,
&c. &c. &c.

J. W. Kerr
F. O.

"Memorandum". for W. F. Whitcher Esqr.

&c. &c. &c.

By reading over Snooks letter, I find altho', he paid his License fees, for Willow hauls, "in the outer Bay", "and for the Inner Bay haul", he complains he has not yet received the Licenses. — Will you be pleased to have these sent to me for delivery, if not already sent to Mr Bingham, F.O., for that purpose. —

Mrs or Miss Lucy Jackson of Yarmouth point, who is at present fishing on the Old family Seine hauling ground there; was granted a free License for this year, will you be pleased to send it to me, for immediate delivery. —

Until Lucy is appointed, and I then go and see him; I will not advise him to permit Snook at Pleasant Island, altho' I do strongly recommend you, to allow me to do so, immediately. —

For I know Snook is in very poor circumstances with a large family of young small children, who must not be allowed to starve; as Section 16. of the Act says; "Because of the poverty of the defendant, the "penalty imposed would be oppressive, a discretionary power "may be exercised". —

In Snook's case no offence has been committed, but the privilege he asks, of going to Pleasant Island, may be granted with the permission of the magistrate, under Section 13. of the Fishery act, to any other licensed fisherman. — All of which is submitted for your approval. —

Yr. respectfully

J. W. Carr

Hamilton Parker.

F.O.

Dec. 1890.

proper envelopes 25 ct.

Post-office orders 50 ct.

Postage 25 ct

Private!

Mr Wm Snooks,
Fisherman, } Turkey point, Hamondale, Ont.

My dear Sir, – I received your letter, and I have forwarded the same to Mr Whitcher, the Commissioner of Fisheries, Ottawa. –

I have requested him to give me authority at once to go up and fix your ranges. – This I expected, I would have been officially ordered to do, before this!. – I have also asked to have your licenses you referred to, sent to me, for delivery. – And I also asked that Miss Lucy Jackson's, free license be also sent to me for delivery at once. –

As your case is one, requiring immediate attention, I expect an answer (and attention) forthwith. –

If I get the answer, you may expect me up, right away. –

Hamilton, Ont.
8. Dec: 1880.

Yr
J. W. Clark, Jr. –

Saturday, 11. December 1880. –

On Burlington Heights. George Brand, paid $1. – got $1. from Mr John Davis, Fish dealer, for Ramsay Wells; – went out at 9. a.m. came in at 1. p.m. Miles 12. S4 & B. 1.50. E. Stern. –

Sunday, 12. December 1880. – . . .

On B. beach, and B. bay, examined the Fish Houses, No person was found in any of them spearing; – went out at 9. a.m, came in at 1.30. p.m, Miles 18. – S44 B. 1.50, called to see Mr Wm Gage, who is very ill. – E. Stern, was with me. –

Fishermen, on B. Beach out in Lake, fishing up Cisco gill Nets, out for upwards of a week. – I told them on Friday last they may do so.

J. W. Clark

Stationery, & quills 40.
Ink 15 & paper 5.

Monday, 13, December 1880. –

On B. Heights, Dundas Marsh, and on B. bay, in front of Gages Inlet, Billy Hamilton, was spearing immediately south of Burlington Heights, W'Esjardins Canal; – Ned was talking with him, he had one pike, which he told Ned and that he would pay next time he saw me. –

Mat: Thompson was also at the Heights spearing, water was running over the Ice. –

Went out at 9. a.m, came in at 4. p.m, Miles 20.

H.H. B. 2.00. E. L. De B. Sker,

My dear Mr Rainey, –

Will you be pleased to meet me, at the International Bridge Station, Fort Erie, on next Thursday Morning the 16th instant, when the morning Train, from Niagara, arrives there. –

I want your returns, for this current year, and the balance of 100. of your fishing license fee, – besides rendering an acct of all things done in the flesh, to use a Scripture phrase. –

still due for 1880;

I hope you are all in good health. please remember me Kindly to Mrs R. – Hubert, and the little lassie, and believe me; Just as ever and as usual. –

G. Wesley Renney Esqre Fisherman, Ridgeway – Bertie P. Office,

Yours Sincerely, J. W. Kerr, J.O.

P.S. Bring this years licenses 1880, with you, and all your returns, Connect for this year. Dont fail but come, and your might telegraph me at Niagara, when you receive this!.

J. W. Kerr, J.O.

Tuesday. 14. December 1880. –

✓ At S. Bridge, and Niagara, to get up my annual Returns, went out at 4. p. m. came in at 8. p. m. Miles 60. My fare $2.75¢, tea and bed 50¢ – S.4 B. 1.50, E. K. –

Wednesday. 15. December 1880. –

✓ At the Town of Niagara, getting up my annual Returns. – and Consulting the Fishermen, on various subjects. – Board $1. – 2. Miles. –

Thursday. 16. December 1880. –

✓ At Niagara, S. Bridge, and Fort Erie, getting up my annual Returns, saw J. W. Kenney, Chester Harris, and Thomas Kenney, and got their annual Returns, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 6.30. p. m. Miles 110. My fare $1.75¢ Breakfast and dinner $1. – S4 B. $1.50¢

I find on reference to my appointment, as a Fishery Overseer, that I was appointed by the Hon: Alex: Campbell, Minister of Crown Lands, on the 16th day of December 1864, – Being just 16. years ago, this day,

J. W. K. –

Friday. 17. Dec: 1880. –

✓ At Toronto, and Toronto Island, getting up my annual Returns, went out at 11. a. m. came in at 8. p. m. Miles 50. My fare $2.30¢, Boat $1. dinner, tea and bed 75¢.

✓ Saturday 18. December 1880,

At Toronto Island, Toronto, and Hamilton went out at 8.50. a. m. came in at 12.50, p. m. Miles 45. Boat $2.25¢, S44 B. $1.50¢ Breakfast 25¢. Straw Yakes, paid $1, and James King paid $1. Jack Ancil, 25¢,

Sir.,

20. Dec: 1880. —

I Have the honor to apply to you, hoping you will be pleased to (grant) have the coloured Lot, as shewn on the enclosed plan; which is situated in the Town of Niagara, in the County of Lincoln, and now in my possession; set apart for the natural, and artificial propagation of fish, &c. under section 15. of the Fisheries Act. —

There is an old one story, frame Building Military Barrack, 100' feet long, by 24' feet, wide, on the Lot.

This building is lined with brick, is lathed and plastered, and stands upon a stone foundation, and is boarded outside. —

This Building will suit very well for the Hatching and as you may observe by its position on the Lot, as per plan. —

Then you will please observe, that there is two living springs, "never failing", of pure water on the Lot, which can by pipes, and troughs, be made to carry, and supply the water continuously whenever required in, and into the Hatchery, as soon as fitted up. —

There is 2, small ponds on the Lot, which I intend to enlarge and repair and put fish in. —

The water from the springs, at present run direct in a small stream into the St. River, which is close bye to this lot. —

I hope therefore you will be pleased to grant this application, and publish the Proclamation setting the lot, &c, apart &c, &c, &c, ..

I respectfully submit, and recommend the same for your consideration and approval.

3

See refn.

I may as well candidly tell you, I wish to breed fish, on my own hook, on the best improved plans, for the benefit, and the instruction of the public at large, who may have or take an interest in it. ✓ see down my lines — ✓

I have always as my reports, to the department specify, considered, that Niagara is a good choice place, for to carry on Fish Breeding, being at the head of Navigation, on Lake Ontario, and in Connection with the Great Niagara River, whose waters never grow less. —

see up. — ✓ And so effect to keep up the supply of White fish, &c, in my Division of L. Ontario, and the Niagara River, to its present prosperous position, by breeding, and protection combined. — ✓

Any old Cast off things, from the Government Fish Breeding Establishments will be thankfully received, and highly appreciated by me. —

It is about 15 years since the White fish were as numerous in Lake Ontario, between Wellington Co. and the Town of Niagara, as they have been this year. —

Aid in any manner will be graciously received, and acknowledged. —

The Honble
The Minister of
Ac. Ac. Ac.

I have &c, &c.
J. W. Kerr.
Fishery Overseer. —

P.S. — J. B. Plumb Esqre M.P., is aware that I am doing something at my own expense, pointing in the direction of this application. —

20. Dec: 1880.

J. W. Kerr.
F.O.

Tuesday, 21. Dec: 1880. —

On B. bay, and B. beach, to ascertain the Names of all persons Spearing fish. — went out at 9. a. m, came in at 4.30. p. m, Miles 20. — Stone by the City of Hamilton. 44 B. 2.50. & Kerr, with me. —

Private, Hamilton, Ont.

My dear Mr Whitcher.

I had a letter from a friend to-day, who says therein; "I hear Mr Whitcher, is going to be superannuated, I wonder who is going to take his place". —

This is unexpected News for me. — and if such is the case. I hope Mr Bauset, will get the appointment, for I can get along with him, very well and agreably, at least I think so. —

I have made arrangements, &c, &c, &c.

Will you be pleased to see that the following applications are attended to, soon, or before you leave the Fisheries department. —

1st.

My re appointment to Long point, Turkey point, &c, &c, Just as you say; and may approve of. —

2d.

My report, dated 25, Oct. 1880, Relating to L. pt.

3rd.

12. Nov: 1880, Relative to Rushwick Lake, being set apart, and Leased to Messrs Davidson & Coman.

4.

26. Nov: 1880, a fishery for my sons in the N. River, a 9 years Lease. —

S

and the setting apart, my lot the, Town of Niagara, for Fish Breeding &c.. per my Report of 20. Dec: 1880. — Except grant for same. —

We are all well, I shall miss you very much, if you leave the Fisheries Department. —

And you must certainly be sick, as well, as most assuredly you would have replied to my several letters, or written me more than once since your return home. —

I wish you every happiness, the world can confer on you, Mrs Whitcher and family.

And believe me, as ever,

W. F. Whitcher Esqre, Comr. of Fisheries, Ottawa,

Yours Most Sincerely, J. H. Kerr, Hamilton, Ont.

21. Dec: 1880.

P.S.

His wife shew you, I have a photo 16. years. —

Note, — Was Mr J. B. Plumb, M.P. invited on your visit, and have you taken him to The Minister, and recommended and obtained the grant for Niagara Hatchery? —

J. H. Kerr

Telegraph Office, 25.

Wednesday. 22. Dec: 1880.

Edward Kerr, putting up Proclamation to Keep off Spearers from Ground set apart for propagation of Fish, — went out at 1. p.m. came in at 7. p.m. Miles 10, H & B. 1.50. H

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of yours of the 18th instant. — I have never yet received any reply to my report, made in your favour on the 12th Nov: 1880 — in re Burlinch Lake, &c. &c. —

Today, I wrote the W. F. Whitcher, Commissioner of Fisheries, a reminder on the subject. I will run up perhaps soon, and have a chat, and show you my report. — Believe me, —

Yours Sincerely,

J W Kerr

John Davidson Esqre
&c. &c. &c.
Guelph, Ont.

J.P.
Hamilton, Ont.
21, Dec: 1880.

Thursday, 23, December 1880, —
at London, Chatham, Windsor, and Sandwich to visit the Hatchery there; — met Mr Jas: Harris at Windsor Station, who drove me down, and back again to the American Hotel, went out at 9.30, a.m, came in at 10, p.m, made a close examination of the Hatchery, per my Report to the F. department, Miles 200, Ry fare 5.80, dinner 75, Bed 40, 1 Bt, 1.50, 8.45

Friday, 24, December 1880, —
at Windsor, and Stone, went out 4, a.m, came in at ½ past 1, p.m, Miles 189, Ry fare 5.80, Breakfast 50. — 1.50 7.80

My dear Sir,

25. Dec 1880.

Yours of 24th instant has been duly received. I will be home on Wednesday (the 29th) so you may send on Frank Jackson to see me. —

I sent forward your application, to the department, on the 30th of November last, the day I received it, and I am in daily expectation of receiving orders from the Department, until then! — we must wait with patience. I wish you both a happy New Year. —

Tell Frank, to ask the Conductor to let him off, at the head of the Cut, where the Train usually stops. It is about a mile south of my place, and nearer than going down to Hamilton, and coming up to my place again. — He has only then to come round by the Mountain Road, enquire for my place and easily find it,

Yours &c. &c.,

J. Wilson

P.O.

W. M. Alderson Esqre
Drawer K,
Port Dover.

Let him tell no person where he is going, nor his business to any one.

J. W.

Sir,

25. December 1880. —

In obedience to your desire, expressed to me last November, "and at my own request", when you were passing thro' Hamilton. —

I have to report for your information, that I proceeded by Railway to Windsor, and thence to the Government Fish Breeding Establishment at Sandwich, in charge of Mr James Nevin, who appeared to me, to be a very careful attentive, and competent officer. ---

I arrived at the Hatchery, at 6.15, p.m, 23rd inst. instant, until near 10. p.m, in examination of the Hatchery &c, and in consultation with Mr Nevin, on every subject and topic connected with fish Breeding, the Hatchery, the present mode of procuring of white fish eggs, their in= pregnation, laying down in the cans, and trays of the Hatchery, &c, &c. to me again, a most interesting, en= joyable, and very instructive lesson.

However! I find I am not yet quite competent yet, to give you all the particulars in that learned fish language and lore, so familiar to you, of this fish breeding in= stitution, established under your advice, and supervision, in connection with the protection of the fishes of the Dominion. — You shall have what I saw myself, as it came perceptibly, and directly under my own personal observation, and for doing which I hope you will forgive and excuse me. --

In the first place, the Hatchery is 90 feet long, by 30 feet, wide, and ceiling 12 feet high. — It is 120 feet, from the Detroit River, and by the power of a 12 Horse Engine, with two Rotary pumps, pure water is continuously kept running thro' the hatching cans, and over the hatching trays, and hatching boxes, say; from the first day, the White fish are placed therein; which is generally about the

1st day of November, in each year, until about the 20th of April following, when the fish are all hatched out. - -

Pumping from the Detroit River, pure water thro' a four inch iron pipe, running under ground into the Hatchery, conveys the water into a Tank, placed up in the end of the Building, from which the waters then runs down thro' smaller pipes, and is distributed into the different hatching apparatus in use, conveying or carrying this pure water (fresh,) thro' the White fish eggs, carefully placed on trays, and in Cans. - The Engine and pumps, and Tanks, are placed in the back, or far end of the Building, from the public Road, - -

As I passed in to the Hatchery, from the rear, thro' the back door, and went down the Centre or Aisle; "altho' not in a church", here I observed some of the Wonderful Works of God, being carried out, by the help, aid or direction of man, the agency of Steam, pumps and water, how sublime indeed, to Contemplate upon. - -

On the left side of the Aisle, as I proceeded, are seven Sections, each section, containing cans, placed on galvanized iron pans, each can would hold 120.000, White fish eggs; or in the aggregate of 25.200.000, eggs. if in full blast. for the seven sections, each containing 30 Cans. - I observed the sections are supplied with water from a plain pipe connected with the Tank, that runs along the side of the building (inside) from which smaller pipes carries the water into each section; and from thence by regulated taps, into each hatching can. - The surplus water passes out through a small waste water pipe, into a galvanized iron trough, and is carried then, or runs from this trough back to the River, through a Wooden pipe. - - -

"The fish formation. - -

"The formation of the fish, is already quite perceptible in about 6.000.000 of the eggs, which were laid down in the Hatching cans, from the 1st to the 8th day of November last, inclusive. - -

Eggs taken, procured and impregnated from the 8th to the 14th of November, are visibly progressing towards life. - -

Eggs taken after the 14th of November, temperature of the water at 30° show no signs of life so far, altho' in a healthy state and condition. -- But the per centage in loss, Mr. Mavin, assured me will be much greater than those eggs, laid down previously. --

On the right hand side of the aisle, there are 6.000.000, eggs, on the hatching Trays, the eggs at present show no appearance of life thus far, but they are all right, and will hatch 90% living fish, so at least Mr. Mavin assured me. —

Then the hatching cans, as at present constituted contain by accurate count and measurement 14.000.000 of good healthy eggs. --

So that in reality, I may safely say from the foregoing, without fear of contradiction; that there 20.000.000, of living White fish fry, at present coming to maturity and life in the Hatchery at Sandwich. - - -

Mr. Mavin, assured me, that if the weather had been more favourable, during the spawning season last November, he would have been able, fully to report 35.000.000, of white fish eggs, as laid down this season, instead of 20.000.000, eggs, as above. - - -

And the former quantity of white fish eggs, can be as easilly be laid down, if procured, and successfully hatched out, from appearances in one half of the Sandwich Hatchery. - - -

There is a reception Tank, placed at the end of the Trays, it is 24' feet, long, 7' feet wide, and 2' feet deep, for the young fish or fry, and where they are placed, as they hatch out, and before they are distributed. - - -

When I entered the Hatchery alone, and without being announced, I found Mr William Hale, the Engineer, engaged picking bad eggs out of a hatching can, which he attends to, while on duty, as well as to the Engine, &c. - - -

I cannot get any further without repeating to you the very great respect and regard I entertain for Mr James Mavin, the intelligent, and competent officer in charge, who learned me so much of the art and science of artificial fish Breeding, and which I feel, I am so much indebted to, for such deep and lasting benefits and obligations. - - -

In conclusion, after consulting with Mr Mavin, on every subject of the art of fish breeding &c. and after discussing the pros and cons; I beg most respectfully to report to you; first - - "That before next fall, the interior of the Hatchery, should be so enlarged by additional hatching Trays, hatching cans, and sections, so as to hatch out annually 70.000.000, of Eggs, instead of its present less number, and which can be done at the present hatching expenses.

I would also respectfully recommend and suggest, a plan, so as to enable Mr Mavin, to get and procure this large supply and increased number of eggs for hatching purposes. —

Viz:- "The Building of a pen, in the Detroit River" — where as many spawning fish, Male and Female, white fish, could be placed and hauled into; and from them eggs could be more surely had, and more easily secured; than by the present laborious, even risky system. —

I have to apologize for trespassing at such length, on your time, and believe me with due respect, —

To, W. F. Whitcher Esqre
Commissioner of Fisheries.
Ottawa. —

I Have &c.
J. W. Kerr. —
F. O.

P.S. — As Mr Mavin will shortly furnish, his annual report, I shall say more. —

J. W. Kerr. F.O.

Sir,

1st January 1881.—

With reference to my Report to you of the 30th of November last, in respect to the application of Mr Frank Jackson, fisherman, and a resident of Port Dover, on Lake Erie. - - -

I have now the honor to apply to you, and I beg most respectfully to recommend that you will be pleased to grant a License to Mr Frank Jackson; "For to fish two pound Nets, "with single pots, in Lake Erie; at, or near "Fishers Creek, "during this year of 1881, at the rate of $50. per annum for "each pound". - "Fishers Creek, I believe is in the town= ship of Woodhouse: — And lies midway, between Port Ryerse and Turkey point, and it was not used during any part of last year as a pound net fishing ground. - - -

I have the honor to enclose you Bank draft No. 177, for the sum of $100, as license fee for 1881, and which is $10. of an advance, over and above the pound Net license fee, paid by Port Dover fishermen last year. - -

I consider, however, $50. a year, a fair fee, as the pound Net fishing in the neighbourhood of Port Dover, has been good and profitable during the past year of 1880. -

Will you be pleased to send me the license for delivery, as soon as convenient; so that Mr Jackson may set to work, get out Net poles, erect an Ice House, and store away therein, Ice for next Summer. -

All of which is respectfully Submitted. —

The Honble
The Minister,
&c, &c, &c.

I Have, &c.
J W Kerr
J. P.

Post office Orders 60¢.

Express charges, $1.50¢.
Repairing Stage Mat 50¢.

My dear Brownjohn,

I am just in receipt of your Note of 29th instant, asking me for $10. for to pay your taxes. –

At present I have no Money on hand, but as soon as I can procure that much, I will at once send it you. –

Thos: C. Brownjohn Esqre
P.L. Surveyor.
Grimsby, Ontario.

Yours truly.
J. W. Kerr.

Hamilton 30. Dec: 1880. –

P.S.

I am hard up myself for money just at present. –

J W Kerr

My dear Sir,

I am just in receipt of your favour of 29th instant, enclosing me a cheque from W. M. Alderson Esqre on the Federal Bank of Canada, dated Simcoe, 29th December 1880: – for "One Hundred dollars" –. –

This amount is to apply on account of a Licence to fish four Nets in Lake Erie, at the rate of $200. for the year 1881, in waters between Port Ryerse, and Fishers Creek; or in, or about, or below Port Dover, in Lake Erie, as shall be approved of by the Fisheries department, Ottawa. –

Will you be pleased to let me know the distance along the Lake shore, between Ryerse, and Fishers Creek, and do so at once. I shall cash the cheque on tomorrow, and send the $, and my application and recommendation for your Licence on Saturday next, the 1st of January 1881 – the New year!

Wishing you the Compliments of the season, and many happy returns of the same, Believe me, Your Obedient Servant,

Mr Frank Jackson,
"Fisherman"
Port Dover, Ontario

J W Kerr. Jr. –
Hamilton, Ont.
30. Dec: 1880.

Sir,

1st January 1881.—

I have the honor to submit herewith for your perusal, consideration and approval; account, and diary of my actual disbursements for travel, and petty expenses incurred by me, while employed on active duty; during the quarter ending the 31st day of December 1880.—

Amounting to— $175.54,

Add.—	C. J. Kerr, Boatman, Voucher	1,	7.00,
"	J. W. Kerr, Services—paid for pro=		
	tecting a Speckled Trout stream, as per Voucher,	2,	8.00,
"	J. W. Kerr, For Telegraphs.—	do. 3,	3.05,
"	J. W. Kerr, " Postages, &c.	" 4,	5.40,
"	J. W. Kerr, " Office Rent,	" 5,	5.00,
"	J. W. Kerr, " Constable,	" 6,	5.00,
"	J. W. Kerr, " Stationery.—	" 7,	2.55,
"	J. W. Kerr, " Railway Fares,	" 8,	11.60,
"	Wellington Stull, Fishery Overseer,		
Erin Village.—	Travelling expenses for 1880,—	" 9,	15.00
"	Edward Kerr, Boatman, &c,	" 10	13.50
		Total,	$251.64

In submitting this account for your Consideration, &c, I beg most respectfully to report, that I travelled 2.524, Miles, in discharging my active duties, "as per diary", considered necessary for the protection and welfare of the fisheries.—

I consider the Wm. Stull, F.O, well deserves $15.00, which I returned as expenses "for 1880".— I may also add, that all the expenses and accounts incurred, were well and truly laid out in all cases, for the interest of the fish and fisheries.— And with due respect,

I have &c,

J W Kerr
F.O,

To, The Honble
The Minister,
&c, &c, &c,

Immediate,

My dear Brother Jordon,

On receipt of this, I will thank you to drive at once, up to the Franchumans Bay. — See Mr Thomas Mansfield, and find out from him, the quantity of Salmon Trout White fish, Pike, Herring, Salmon, Coarse fish and Frost fish, he caught during the year 1880, — Just ended; and let me have it immediately. — —

Wishing you many happy returns of the day — believe me,

Yours Sincerely.

John Jordon Sr Esqre
F. Guardian
Duffins Creek.

J W Kerr F.O,
Hamilton, Ont
1st January 1881,

P.S. Also please call on Mr Salsbury Wright, and get from him, the quantity of Salmon Trout, White fish, Pike, Herring, Salmon, and Coarse fish, and Frost fish, he caught. — —

Also please find out for me, what quantity of White fish, and all other kind of fish, John Daly caught. — Mr Wright, will be able to tell you. — And T. Mansfield will be able to fill in as above; and you please return it to me at once. —

And please give my best wishes to Tom and his Mrs, and to Salsby Wright, and accept for yourself mine,

J W Kerr F.O,

Postages 28 c/ ~~11~~

Tuesday, 4, January 1881. —

Robert Hamilton, City of Hamilton, paid $1. —
and John Phillips, — do " $1,
for Spearing in B. bay, and in the Dundas Marsh. — J W Kerr, F.O,

My dear Sir, and Brother. — 1st January 1880.

Will you be pleased to find out, for me the quantity of bisses, Herring, or other fish caught at Bronte, between the 4th and 31st of December. —

I was at Bronte myself, and got returns up to 4th Dec:, From the undermentioned fishermen; viz:

1. William Ingledew, 4th to 31st Dec: 1880.
2. Richard Joyce, in full for the year 1880. —
3. James and Robert Joyce, 4th to 31st Dec: 1880. —
4th Thomas Joyce, — do, —

Please let me have this information by return Mail. And with my Kind and warm regards and respects to all the above, and to their families. — And to Mrs Pollock and family; and wishing you One and all the compliments of the season and many happy returns of the New year. —

Believe me, Yours fraternally,

W. D. Pollock Esqre, J. W. Kerr,
H. Overseer, H. Overseer
Bronte,

paper 25 ¢
Postage stamps, 50 ¢
Box Rent, extra. $1.00 ¢

Scotch Salmon Fishing.

The few clouds have cleared away before the ascending sun, and the heavens are painfully radiant. It becomes hard work casting with the heavy reel, as aching arms and shoulders begin to warn you; nor is it in human nature to continue to throw carefully when you have abandoned all reasonable hope of a rise. You welcome the suggestion of an interlude for a light refection, and recruit sinking nature from the flask and tobacco-pouch. But how different is the lounging siesta in the shade from what it might have been had the silver-scaled salmon been glistening in front of you. And when it is over you are demoralized instead of being invigorated; the afternoon goes listlessly by in half-hearted efforts, and you return homeward feeling that it has been sadly misspent. So day succeeds to day, your hopes sinking with the river till they have subsided into sullen despair. It is more than idle to put up the rod, and you fall back upon all sorts of desperate resources for killing time, if you do not resolve on precipitate departure. And even the long-expected rain may only come to tantalize you. While it is falling, and for a little time after, the brown and foaming flood is, of course, altogether unfishable. Then for a while it is in excellent order, and you may be more or less lucky in your sport. But only too soon succeeds the change for the worse. Improved farming and scientific subsoil draining have done irreparable injury to many of the salmon rivers. Where they still flow chiefly through Highland glens through woods and heather, and unreclaimed peat mosses, the water soaks away to the natural old-fashioned channels of hill torrents fed by the mountain rains. Accordingly, before the effects of the rainfall have disappeared there is a fair chance of your seeing the beginnings of another. The salmon are shifting about in the subsiding stream, and are ready enough to rise to the lure. But in the river that runs through fertile "haughs" and rich agricultural land the case is very different. Each drain comes down in flood, collecting the rain-fall between two furrows, and in the course of four and twenty hours the ground has been dried like a squeezed sponge, while the sudden overflow has swept down the river to the sea, leaving the streams and pools nearly as shallow as before.—*The Saturday Review.*

SALMON have been extraordinarily scarce in New Brunswick and Nova Scotian waters; so much so that in some localities formerly well supplied, none have been seen, and a famine exists for ova for the hatcheries.

Hamilton,

My dear Dick, Monday, 3, January 1881.

Yours of the 1st instant, just received; any day you come up this week, after tomorrow by the Morning Train, I expect you will find me in "The Standard Insurance Office", Hamilton. —

It is at the Corner of Vine and James street, opposite the New Opera House. — I am one of the Auditors of this Company, and hence why you will be able to find me there. — It is a fine Stone Building, any person will show it to you. —

And with my best wishes for your welfare, and many happy returns of the season; Believe me. —

Yours truly,
J. W. Kerr,
H. Quesson

Mr Richd Gilbert
Jordan.

Ink 15¢ paper 10¢ 15¢

Memorandum for S. P. Bennet Esq re Fisheries department
Ottawa. —

I have complied with your advice and instructions; and have now the honor of send you the Corrected diary, amounting to $131.899
I have also retained the three Vouchers, 2, 8, and 9, as you direct, and advise. —

And I remain with much respect, and with many thanks, for the great interest you have always taken in my Welfare. —

Your Obedient Servant,
J. W. Kerr
H. Q.

Hamilton, Ont.
17, January 1881.

"Immediate".

My dear Stull,

I have just received the following from the fisheries department, Ottawa, dated 10th of January 1881. — Yrs J. W. Kerr, F.O.

"Memorandum for Mr Kerr,"

"Can you give me a statement of fines imposed by, or thro' Wellington Stull, since his appointment".

"All I can find of record here is a fine of $8, upon L. Stughson for throwing saw dust in Credit River, in 1878". — Sd S. C. Bassett,

Now I want you to answer this at once direct to me; as follows: Send under the following heads: —

1. Name of Complainant. —
2. Name of Defendant, —
3 Place of Offence. —
4, Nature and Date of Offence. —
5. By whom convicted, when, and if on view, or on proof. —
6. Amount of penalty. —
7. Amount of Cost. —
8. To whom paid. —
9. Remarks. —

W. Stull, Esqre
F. Overseer,
Erin Village.

Yours &c,
J. W. Kerr, F.O.
Hamilton, Ont^o,
11. January 1881. —

P.S. You mentioned in a former letter to me, that you travel over your division four times a year, visiting Saw Mills, and Ponds, &c,

Please let me know the number of Miles you have travelled each year since your appointment, and give each year, by itself.

Yrs J. W. Kerr,
F.O.

Sir,

14. January 1881.

I have the honor to send you herewith, the Annual Returns of Boats, Nets, &c. together with the Catch yield and value of Fish by the fishermen, &c, in the Hamilton Division; during the year ending 31st December 1880; as follows;

1.	Between Whitby Harbour, and Toronto. —	$ 4.480.-
2.	" Toronto, and Burlington Beach. —	8,857.-
3.	" Burlington Beach, and Queenston Heights. —	10.624.-
4.	" Queenston Heights, and Moulton Bay. — —	5,932.-
	" Total. —	$ 29.893.-
	Deduct Value of Fish, reported for year 1879. — —	28.278.-
	Net Increase. —	$ 1.615.

I will report more fully in detail to you in a few days; and with due respect,

I have &c,

J. W. Kerr,
F. O.

To. W. F. Whitcher Esqre
C. of Fisheries,
Ottawa.

Tuesday. 8. February 1881. —

At Toronto, and Toronto Island to make some enquiries about the application of Mr Charles Nurse for the Pub^lic Grays fishing ground, at the West side of the mouth of the Humber, went out at 9. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. Miles 46. Reg fare $ 2.20.c, dinner tea and bed 75. —

Wednesday. 9. Feb: 1881.

At Toronto Island and Hamilton, see my report of this date, went out at 8.30. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. Miles 46. Reg fare Nil, Hay Pd. 1.50. Breakfast 25.

My dear Sir,

14. January 1881.

In answer to your enquiry what are the fees charged for spearing fish thro the Ice. —

In reply, I have to inform you, that under the latter part of Sub section 8, of Section 13 of the Fisheries Act The Minister has permitted Spearing for Bass, Pike, Herring &c. in Burlington Bay and Dundas Marsh, upon the applicant paying one dollar License fee in advance. —

Before you allow any person to spear fish in the Grand River, apply for, and obtain the Ministers Sanction.

Yours truly,
J. W. Kerr
F. Overseer

Harry Lane Esqre
Fishery Overseer,
Dunville Ont.

7. February 1881. —

Sir. — I have the Honor to send you herewith, Bank draft, No: 323 for the sum of "Fifteen dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows; during this current season, as follows: —

1. Mr Abraham H. Grobb, of Clinton, County of Lincoln, "For a license to fish a Seine 250 yards long, in the 20. Mile pond, at Jordan, in the township of Louth; To be the same as last year. — —

I also beg most respectfully, to apply to you, for a license, for Mr Richard Gilbert, of Louth; "For to fish a Seine 150. yards long, in the 16. Mile pond, which is in the township of Louth, at the rate of ten dollars, for this season. —

I will send you the $10. soon, and I beg most respectfully, to recommend that you will be pleased to issue the same as soon as Convenient.

I have &c.
J. W. Kerr
F. O.

The Honble
The Minister,
&c. &c. &c.

Sir,

4. February 1881. —

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank draft, No: 315, for the sum of Fifty dollars. — —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for a Pound Net license, single pot, for this current year, to be granted to Mr Richard Gilbert, fisherman, resident in the township of Louth, and County of Lincoln. — —

Mr Gilbert, is a worthy poor man, with a large family; a strict observer of the fishery laws; &c, &c.

I hope you will be pleased to grant him a license for to fish a pound net, in Lake Ontario, single pot, between the 16. mile creek, and Smith point, situated in the township of Louth. — —

I have much pleasure in recommending the same for your consideration and approval. — —

I do so, thus early in the season, in order that Mr Gilbert, may begin to get up the thread, "the lead and pot, &c," as it is called. —

The place where the application is made for, will not interfere with any other fisher and calling, besides it is out of the way of trading vessels. —

And with much respect,

I have, &c,

The Honble

The Minister,

&c &c. &c. —

Gilbert Senr,

P. O.

Friday, 11. February 1881. —

At Toronto, and Leslieville, to arrange about pike gill net fishing, went out at 5. 30, a. m. came in at 5 p. m. having returned home, filled 92. Bkt $2.00. H & B, 2.00. 1.50. dinner 45¢. — — Spending my absence. — —

Sir, 7. February 1881.

I have the honor to submit for your information and decision, the copy of a letter, I received from Mr Henry Lane, F. Overseer, of Drummville, on the Grand River, dated 17th January last, regarding spearing, &c, &c, &c. — Also a copy of my reply thereto, of the same date. —

I now submit for your information two letters, on the same subject, I have since received from Mr John H. Buck, dated January 28. 1881. —

Also a letter from a fisherman, dated Drummville, Ontario. February 4. 1881, which will give you the present state of affairs, as regards the spearing of fish in the Grand River, —

All of which is respectfully submitted. —

The Hon.ble
The Minister,
&c, &c, &c.

I Have, &c,
J W Kerr
F. O.

My dear Dick. — Hamilton, Ontario,

Will you please find herewith, your license to fish a seine in the 16. Mile pond, and a pound Net in Lake Ontario, between the 16. Mile pond, and Smiths Point, situated in the township of Louth. — and I have only to add obey the Laws, and I wish you every success. —

Yours truly,
J W Kerr
F. Overseer
Hamilton
11. Feb. 1881.

Mr Ric. Gilbert,
Fisherman,
Jordan Station,

Mr Kerr.

Stumbler Mouth, February 1st 1881.

Dear Sir,

Minnico,

I write to apply for my fishing licence, and that I wish to get the fishing privilege of my shore as Mr Grey has been saying every year it was his last year, of fishing here. —

Now I wish to apply for the Lease to fish Seine from Dog Way, to Mitchels Farm, distance about 4. Miles. — And there is no place a man can draw a Seine, only at Dog Way, and my shore in that distance, without I clean the rocks from the bottom. —

I have written to Ottawa, respecting this application as above, I have been advised to do so. —

Trusting to hear from you soon. —

I remain Sincerely Yours,
C. Nurse —

Read, and Submitted To,
The Hon: The Minister, —

This is the man, who caused so much trouble and annoyance in May 1879, See my reports to Mr Whitcher, dated 10th and 20, of May 1879. — When he tried thro Mr Murray, residing then on a hunted farm, situated on the Bank of the Stumbler to introduce fishing to suit only himself. I cannot recommend this application, only so far as he held under a licence in 1880, and on which he still owes a Balance. —

J. M. Kerr
J.P.

Charlottetown, Prince Co.
9. Feb: 1881.

Stating [illegible]
[illegible]

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to find herewith your license to fish in the 20. Mile pond. —

I wish you every success during this current season of 1881. — Obey the law. —

Yrs &c.

J. W. Kerr —
P.O. Stamilton —
11. Feb: 1881.

Abm H. Grobb Esqre,
Fisherman
Beamsville, Ontario

Sir:

14. February 1881. —

I have the honor, to apply to you, for a Semi Hawking license, &c. for Mrs Charlotte, and Francis Reid, of Clarkson's Corners, in the township of Toronto, near Port Credit, for to fish in Lake Ontario, &c. during this current year. — —

The license for this season, to be the same as last year, and the license fee also the same, say; ten dollars. — —

I recommend that you will be pleased to issue the license at your convenience. —

And with due respect,

I have, &c.
J. W. Kerr,
P.O.

The Honble
The Minister,
&c. &c. &c.

Postage 25. ✓ Stationery 25. ✓

Sir,

12. February 1881, —

I have the honor to apply to you, for Boat licenses, for to fish pike gill nets; in Ashbridges Bay, during this current season; say; up to the 1st day of May next; as follows; in front of City of Toronto. — —

1, Mr William B. Woolcard, of Leslieville, fisherman, a license for to fish 600, yards of pike gill nets in Ashbridges bay, comprised between Woodbine Race park, and the Outlet to Lake Ontario, on the Lake side, and from this Outlet by a direct line to the large Ice House, on the Village, Leslieville side of Ashbridges Bay; say from 1st day of January, to the 30th day of April 1881. —, at the rate for such period, — $8.00 c.

"This man met with a grew accident, which shattered his hand, "and having a wife, and small family of 4, children; I permitted "him to set a piece of gill net, under the Ice some time ago, "for catching a few fish, for to support his family, which he "has been doing, at a small remuneration". — —

2, Mrs Mary Jane Marsh, of Leslieville, Widow of the late Lewa Marsh; "For a license to fish 500, yards of pike gill nets in Ashbridges Bay, near Leslieville, except as licensed to W. B. Woolcard; — say up to the 30th day of April 1881." — I recommend that you will be please to grant in this case a free license". — —

3, George Lang, of Leslieville; "A license for to fish 500 yards of pike gill net, in Ashbridges bay except that part licensed to W. B. Woolcard, say up to, and including the 30th day of April next, at the rate for such period", — $4.00.

4, Thomas Hetherington, of Leslieville, "A license for to fish 500, yards of pike gill nets, in Ashbridges Bay except that part already licensed to W. B. Woolcard. — say up to, and including the 30th day of April next, at the rate for such period", $6.00 c.

Will you be please to grant those licenses, as soon as convenient, and I would respectfully recommend that a clause be inserted in each license that the licensee, shall not visit nor set his gill nets, after Sunset, nor examine, nor take the fish out of them, before Sun rise. —

"There is so much robbing of the nets, that I am obliged, so as to prevent it; to bring the matter under your immediate notice in this case, as regards pike gill net fishing. —

I Have &c,

J W Kerr J.P.

The Honble
The Minister,

P.S. — And I also recommend, that they be permitted to set under the Ice. — I Respectfully,

J W Kerr J.P.

Sir,

14. February 1881. —

I have the honor to apply to you for a Semi Hauling license, on Lake to Island, Ont. for Messrs Patrick Gray, David Ward, and William Ward, (Jointly,) all residents of Toronto Island; for this current season of 1881.

This license, I beg most respectfully to recommend should be in every respect, the same as the License issued to those fishermen last season, by the department. —

Will you be pleased to send me this license, in duplicate, at your Convenience. —

And with due respect,

The Honble
The Minister,
&c. &c. &c.

I Have, &c,
J W Kerr
J.P.

Memo: Receipt for $73,39¢ returned to the dept herewith, as ordered by the Commissioner of Fisheries.

Hamilton Ont.
14. Feb: 1881.

I Have respectfully
J W Kerr
J.P.

Doc. C. Bruce Esq.
&c. &c. &c.
Dept. Ottawa.

Sir,

14. February 1881.

I have the honor to apply to you, in behalf of Mr Patrick Gray fisherman, resident of Toronto Island, for a license, during this year of 1881, of, "The Seine hauling ground in Lake Ontario, commencing west of the Humber Bridge; thence in a westerly direction along the beach, for a distance of 500 yards, and to extend outwards within the given points, for a distance of 300, yards, in to the waters of the Lake. –

"For the privilege of fishing with a Seine of 250 yards long License fee, to be $10. –

"This is only a spring fishing ground, for Suckers and Mullets and pays very well, provided the Upper Lakes fish, are late in coming down to the Toronto Market. –

And with due respect. –

The Honble
The Minister
F. F. F.

I Have, &c.
J. W. Kerr,
P. O.

Sir,

14. February 1881. –

I have the honor to apply to you, in behalf, Messrs David Ward, and William Ward, of Toronto Island; "Year 1881." –

"For a Boat license to fish 8,000 yards of Salmon Trout, and White fish gill nets; and 3,500, yards of Cisco gill nets, in Lake Ontario; between the Humber Bridge, and the Dutch Churches; say about 12, Miles, Lake frontage, run to extend outwards into deep water for a distance of Six Miles. – The license fee to be the same as last year $20. – And with due respect. –

The Honble
The Minister
&c. &c. &c.

I Have, &c.
J. W. Kerr
P. O

My dear Sir,

I am just in receipt of your application of the 12th instant, for a license to fish Pike gill nets in the Bay, at Frenchmans Bay, during this Spring 1881.

In reply I will thank you to let me know immediately the number of yards of gill nets you intend fishing, and I will apply for a License for you. — Also if Billy Montgomery, or any other person intends to go with you, and who they are and the quantity of gill nets, they intend to fish, answer me at once. —

Yours truly,

J. W. Kerr, J. P.
Hamilton, Ont.
14. Feb 1881.

Mr John Lunsell,
Fisherman,
Toronto.

My dear Harris,

Will you be pleased to let me have your license money, on receipt, the same as last year, My Kind regards to Mrs Harris, and all the several members of your family. —

I forgot to enquire when I last saw you, where Mrs and Mr Mat: Christian, were, let me know.

Yours Sincerely

J. W. Kerr J. P.
Hamilton, Ont.
14, Feb: 1881.

Mr Chester A. Harris,
Fisherman,
Fort Erie

My dear Grant,

I duly received your letter: for the information it contained, I warmly thank you. –

Will you be pleased to let me have your license money on receipt; also the balance from last year, still due.

My kind respects to all,

Yours Sincerely,
J W Sen
F.O,
Hamilton, 14. Feb: 1881,

Mr John Grant,
Fisherman
Port Stanley,

14. February 1881. Wrote Do,
W. B. Woolland,
Fisherman,
Leslieville, Ont.

My dear Woolland,

I send you herewith, your pike gill net license, send me. $8.00.

18. Feb: 1881. –

Yrs J W Sen F.O,

Mr Marsh,

You will please find your license herewith, see that the Law, is strictly obeyed: –

18. Feb: 1881.

Yrs J W Sen
F.O,

Mr George Lang,
and
Thomas Stelherington,

Leslieville,
Post office. —

In reply to your application, send me $6. dollars, and I will send you a license to fish 500. yards of Pike gill nets in Ashbridges Bay. —

Hamilton, Ont.
18. Feb: 1881.

Yours truly,
J W Sam
P.O.

Sir,

Yours of the 17th instant, is just received, applying for a Seine hauling ground in Lake Ontario at Port Credit. —

In reply I beg to inform you that a license has been issued to the Francis, and the Charlotte Reid, for to fish a Seine, also to fish pike gill nets in the River Credit Marsh. — I can however provide you with a Seining ground in Lake Ontario near the port, if you want to fish. —

I have no Seine, or pike gill nets on hand, for sale. —

Yours truly,
J W Sam
P. Master.
Hamilton, Ont.
20. Feb: 1881.

Mr Adolphus Merigold
Port Credit,
Ont.

1. Monday, 21. Feb: 1881,

On B. bay, and B. beach, getting names of fishermen, desirous of fishing pike gill nets, — went out at 9. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. Mile 26. Hd Sleigh, $2.50¢. Edward Starr with me. —

John Fitch, paid me $1. for spearing license, and David Fitch, paid me 75¢. on acct of spearing. — —

Charles Nurse Esqre

Nurses Hotel,

Hamilton, Ontario.

Dear Sir, In answer to your letter of application to me, dated 1st February instant, and your application dated Nurses Hotel, Hamilton, Ontario, 29. January 1881. — addressed by you to W. F. Whitcher Esqre Ottawa. A copy of which, I also received from the Fisheries department, Ottawa; together with the copy of the answer; a copy of which I now send you. —

Before I apply to the department for your license, will you be pleased to let me have the length of your New Seine, also the number of yards of white fish, and Salmon Trout gill nets, and Herring gill nets, which you intend fishing. —

Also if you want the fishing ground, from Ducks wharf to Macneils farm. —

Let me hear from you on these subjects. —

Hamilton, Ontario
20. February 1881.

Yours &c. J W Kerr
Fishery Overseer.

Then followed Copy of letter, 11. Feb: 1881, for Mr C. Nurse, Hamilton.

P.S. Also answer if you will have a Seining ground, on Toronto Island. — Yours

J W Kerr
F.O.

Tuesday, 22, Feb: 1881. —

At Brouite, and Port Credit, James Joyce paid $5. for license for 1880. — Ingledew and Dick Joyce, told me to get their Money $5, each. from Smith the peddler, went out at 6. a. m, came in at 5.30. p. m, Miles 62, H & S — 1.50. By fare $2, dinner 25¢, 40¢ 3.75

My dear Sir,

Your's received! I will apply and get a license for you, and Billy Montgomery, for to fish 1400 yards of pike gill nets, in the Bay, at Frenchmans Bay, township of Pickering. —

You may fish 3. or 3½ inch mesh nets, by tension measure. —

The license fee, for you both, will be only ten dollars. — The place is full, alive with pike. — —

It opens late, however! when I get your license, you can go down and fish under the Ice if you wish. —

Send me the money, as soon as convenient,

Mr John Funsale,
Boat House,
Esplanade. —
East Toronto,

Yours Sincerely,
J. W. Kerr. F. O.,
Hamilton, Ont.
20. Feb: 1881.

Sir,

20. Feb: 1881.

I have the honor to apply to you for a Boat license for to fish 1400, yards of pike gill nets in the bay, beside the Village of Frenchmans Bay, in the township of Pickering, and south Riding of Ontario. —

I recommend that you will be pleased to issue the same to Messrs John Funsale, and Wm Montgomery, of Toronto, for to fish there, during the months of February March and april, of this year, at the rate of Ten dollars. — And with due respect.

The Honble,
The Minister,
F. F. F.

I Have, &c,
J. W. Kerr
F. O.,

Private. Hamilton, Ont.

My dear Mr Barnet, — Will you be pleased to find the B. F. Bingham, diary and disbursement, for the year ending the 31st of December 1880. — with my remarks on each item, which I hope will meet your approbation. —

From all I have heard and seen of this B, I fear there is little hope of improvement. When I am reappointed again by the Whitehead, and the department for the Norfolk & Haldimand division, and he is placed under me, he must be the month, I can pay his salary. —

S. A. Bannerman
Esq. M. P. P.
Fisheries dept.
Ottawa.

Yours respectfully,
[illegible]
Ont. 28. Feb: 1881,

Wednesday, 23, Feb: 1881.

Left Niagara, to arrange and fit off fishing grounds at 2, Mile pond, above and below Bottons ground. — went out 3: p. m, came in at 8.30, p. m, Miles 60. Ry fare $3.25, Tea and bed 50¢, paid F. G. Brougham $5. on Ry. Survey. — and Thos: Elliott, 15¢, for Board, —

Thursday, 24, February 1881, —

Left fishing grounds, for Albert Ball, John Botton, and James Cantwell. — Went out 9.30. a. m, came in at 12 30, Miles 4. a Walked, Board, $1.00,

Friday 25, Feb: 1881. —

At Niagara, S: Bridge, St Catherines & Hamilton for Railway — Breakfast 25¢, St Catts 1.50 — Miles 60,

Sir,

28. Feb: 1881.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank draft No: 384, for the sum of Forty dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows; for the year 1880. —

1. William Ingladew, Bronte, For a Boat license received, and issued for past year, &c. &c. $ 5.00.

2. Messrs Richard Joice, and boy, Bronte, For do, do, do, do. $ 5.00.

Will you be pleased to send me boat licenses at the rate of $5, each, for this current year, for Ingladew, and Richard Joyce. —

3. John Everett, Port Erie, For a seine license in the Niagara River, to be the same as last year, for this current year, — $ 30.00.

Total, $ 40.00

And with due respect,

I Have, &c.

J. H. Kerr

T. O.

The
Honble
The Minister

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 21st instant, duly received. I have again written to Ottawa, and soon expect from the Fisheries Department, a favorable reply; on receipt of which I will communicate the same to you. —

Yours fraternally,

J. H. Kerr

T. O.

28. Feb: 1881.

John Davidson Esqre
M. P. P.
Toronto.

Sir,

28. Feb. 1881.

I have the honor to draw your attention to my report, dated the 12th day of November 1880, on the application of Messrs Bleiman, Mayor of Guelph, and Mr John Davidson of Guelph. "For to lease Puslinch Lake". And I have much pleasure in again recommending that you will be pleased to give it your earliest consideration, and grant the same. —

And with due respect,

The Honble
The Minister,
V. V. V.

I Have.
J. W. Kerr F.O.

My dear Frank, — I am in receipt of yours of the 22d instant, and in reply, I have to inform you, that I duly sent your $100, dollars, to the Fisheries department on the 1st day of January last, and I recommended that you be given the ground between Port Ryerse, and Turkey point.

In reply to this, I received an answer dated the 8th of January acknowledging the receipt of the $100, on act of Mr Frank Jackson, and stating that your application must stand for the present. —

I will shortly apply for you again, when I expect to be able to reply more fully to your letter. —

Will you be pleased to give me, the Names of the Seven Pound Net Company, and if a Mr Trible of Buffalo, is a member of it. — Whenever you see any of the Turkey point, people, please tele them I am only waiting for the Order to come up there soon. — And with kind regards. —

Mr Frank Jackson,
Fisherman,
Port Dover.

Yours truly,
J. W. Kerr, — F. Overseer
Hamilton, Ont., 28. Feb. 1881.

P.S. — Except to Alderson, Keep your own secrets. —

J. W. Kerr F.O.

" Please inform me, where can a fisherman obtain a good New pound, with lead, hearts, pot, and tunnel. all New that have never been fished, answer me soon,

J. W. Kerr F.O.

Sir,

1. March 1881.

I have the honor to apply to you for "a Seine hauling ground in Lake Ontario, in front of the township of Niagara; Commencing at the Bank Tree which is the east boundary of John Bolton's seine hauling ground, thence east, along the Lake shore, to a cut in post planted in the bank, distance 352 yards Lake frontage. --

"For the privilege of fishing a legal White fish Seine, 200 yards in length."

"Any Salmon, or young White fish caught by this net, must be instantly liberated alive". - "And excessive fishing shall not be tolerated". - "No fishing whatever to be done between 6. o'clock on saturday night, and 6. o'clock the following monday morning". -

"This is a New ground, which I most respectfully recommend may be licensed this current year, to Mr James Cantwell, and Mrs Kate Cantwell of Niagara. -

The license fee, to be a per centage, on the amount of fish caught and sold. — Respectfully submitted.

The Honble
The Minister
&c &c &c

I Have, &c.
J W Kerr
F. O.

P.S

The ground has to be cleared of large stones.

J W Kerr, F. O.

Papers, envelopes, and Note paper,
30 c — X

Sir, 1. March 1881

I have the honor to apply to you for – "A Seine hauling ground, in Lake Ontario, in front of the township of Niagara; commencing at a certain Oak stump, on the bank, west of the 2 Mile pond, thence east along the Lake shore to a certain Oak tree, upon the bank, distance 440 yards Lake frontage".

"For the privilege of fishing a legal white fish Seine, 300 yards in length." – "Any Salmon, or young White fish caught by this net, must be instantly liberated alive". – "And excessive fishing, shall not be tolerated". – "No fishing whatever to be done, between 6. o'clock on Saturday night, and 6. o'clock, the following monday morning". –

I want this license for Mr John Bolton, Niagara, the same fee to be the same as last year. – "Altho' I have made a slight change on the west boundary of the Bolton ground of 2. chains, and 4 feet, which I have given to the Messrs Balls, it will not enter = fere with his Seine fishing in any manner whatever, which is middle of his ground. –

Respectfully submitted, and I recommend the same for your approval. –

I Have, &c.

J W Lam Jr. –

The Honble

The Minister

1. Thursday, 3. March 1881.

Mr B. Leach, notified fishermen, that leave had been given them to set gill nets in B. bay, at the rate of $3. up to 8th of May next, went out at 9. a.m, came in at 4.30. p.m. Miles 30. Set & Length 2. dinner for Med and self 50¢.

Sir,

1. March 1881.

I have the honor to apply to you for, "A Seine hauling ground in Lake Ontario, in front of the township of Niagara; Commencing at a stump, 2, chains, and 41, feet, east of an Oak tree, to be the present west boundary of John Bolton's seine hauling ground; thence west along the Lake shore, to a certain Copper=ege tree, distance 450, yards, Lake frontage?? —

"For the privilege of using a legal White fish Seine, 300 yards in length??

Any Salmon, or young White fish caught, by this net, must be instantly liberated alive?? — No fishing whatever to be done between 6, o'clock on Saturday night, and 6, o'clock, the following monday morning?? — And exclusive fishing shall not be tolerated??

I rent this license for Wm Albert and Charles Bell, of Niagara; say at the rate of $10, dollars, license fee, for this current year. —

Respectfully recommended for your Consideration.

The Honble
The Minister,

I have &c,
J Witcher

ARCH 11, 1881.

THE FISHERY AWARD.

Mr. Witcher's Report on Prof. Hind's Charges.

(From our own Correspondent)

OTTAWA, March 10.—A return has been brought down in the Senate in answer to Senator Price's motion for correspondence in the matter of Professor Hind's charges of fraud in connection with the Halifax fisheries award. The return consists of five letters from Professor Hind to Sir A. J. Smith, dated 15th June, 8th, 11th and 31st July, and 9th August; copy of a letter from Hind to the Under-Secretary of State, dated 17th July, 1878; copy of a letter from Hind to Mr. Witcher, dated 12th June, 1880, and a memorandum on "Professor Hind's charges concerning the Halifax commission and the fisheries award," prepared by Mr. Witcher, Commissioner of Fisheries, and addressed to Sir John A. Macdonald. Hind's letters have been already published, therefore it is unnecessary to quote from them, but it is interesting to notice the memorandum, in pencil, made about the time of their receipt by Smith, then Minister of Marine and Fisheries. On the first letter appears: "Let me know what this man is driving at. I have no time to read his long letter. A. J. S." The second is briefly referred to Mr. Miall for report. The third bears on it: "Let Mr. Witcher look into this matter. I have no time to bother with it. I don't know what he is driving at. Is he *compos mentis*? A. J. S." The others have instructions to read and acknowledge receipt. Mr. Witcher's report is lengthy and exhaustive and entirely disposes of the Professor's mysterious charges of fraud. Attached to it are copies of a letter from Sir A. J. Smith to the Premier of Newfoundland, dated the 24th of April, 1877, about the appointment of Professor Hind; the reply of the Premier, dated the 9th of May, stating that he had shipped the Professor and drawn for $500 to pay his expenses; a report from Witcher to Sir Albert Smith, dated the 9th of August, 1878, on Hind's letters; a letter from Dr. Tache, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, to Professor Hind, a printed copy of the tables prepared by Dr. Tache, for submission to the Halifax commission. Mr. Witcher, in his report to Sir John Macdonald, says: "These charges, stripped of much verbiage, apply mainly to tables of exports and imports, founded upon the trade and navigation returns regularly laid before Parliament, addressed at Halifax and attested by a competent official of the customs department, who appeared as a witness before the commission and submitted to cross-examination. The technical errors and anomalies ascribed to these trade returns I am not accountable for, and do not now discuss, that duty being more appropriate to the customs officials. That imperfections and complications may exist consistently with general accuracy and truthfulness is well understood. There is, however, no reason to doubt the substantial correctness of the Canada trade report." With reference to Hind's criminating document, Mr. Witcher says: "Mr. Hind's manuscript letter to the Governor-General's secretary, dated the 11th instant, cites a printed memorandum concerning article 31 of the Treaty of Washington, which he characterizes as the criminating document, embodying proofs of his indictment of the villiany this document discloses. He says it is the key to the use of the fraudulent Dominion trade and navigation returns for four years, and the use of the falsified Provincial records of the Government. It shows beyond all doubt the intention to cheat and swindle." The paper referred to is a blank appendix, forming no part of the case, but prepared by Mr. Miall, and printed for private discussion. In formulating that portion of the British claim which relates to the remission of customs duties, Hind insists that it embodies the identical arguments advanced by the counsel, and contains a recapitulation of false fish trade tables upon which it is based. Mr. Witcher goes on to quote from the Records of Proceedings of the Halifax Fisheries commission, to show how nearly the American and Canadian statistics agreed in some particulars, and quotes the explanation of Mr. Hill, who compiled the first statistics for the United States, as the causes of some discrepancies. Mr. Witcher then adds: "Whatever discrepancies existed were therefore mutually explainable, and the very act of reconciling them precluded the possibility of intentional misrepresentation on either side. The United States returns having been freely used in compiling the Canadian statements, there was no difficulty in understanding the apparent contradictions adverted to by him." Mr. Witcher ridicules Hind's talking about comparing the "forged trade returns" with the "true trade returns," and says, "What contradistinguished them from the regular commerce and navigation returns of the United States and Canada, which were used at the commission, is a mystery. These are the only authentic documents extant. There was no question about the volume of reciprocal trade in fish, but the incidence of taxation was disputed on both sides. The British argument on this point was supported by living testimony elicited from American and British witnesses, irrespective of theoretical views or statistics of trade. Even if so disposed it is obvious, therefore, that no purpose could be served by either decreasing or increasing the quantities and values of fish exported or imported during any part of the

Sir. 1. March, 1881.

I have the honor to apply to you, for Seine hauling grounds, in Lake Ontario, near the four mile pond, in the township of Niagara; as follows; -

1. James Cantwell, and Mrs Kate Cantwell, of the town of Niagara, To be the same, for this current year, as last year. -

2. Messrs Richard Allan Sr Robert John Allan, and Richard Allan, Jr, of the town of Niagara. - To be the same for this current year, as that granted to Robert John Allan, last year.

There is a family squabble amongst them, they are all disagreeing, so it is best to include all their names in the license this year. - I recommend the same for your consideration and approval, - And with due respect, -

I have &c,

John W. Kerr

F.O.

Mr Geo: Laing, Leslieville. } If Mr W. B. Woolland, allows you to fish within his license limits, I have no objection, otherwise dont do it. --

I now enclose your license, and have marked thereon, the six dollars, which I have just received. -

Yours truly.

J W Kerr

Fishery Overseer,

Hamilton, Ont.

1st Mar: 1881. -

P.S. please tele Hetherington, to send the money for his license. -

J W Kerr, F.O.

10 ¢, for envelope, -
15 ¢ for postage stamps,

Sir,

1. March 1881.

I have the honor to apply to you, for Seine hauling grounds in Niagara River, &c., between the old steam Boat Wharf, and the New Board Fence, at Kennedys hollow, situated in the Town of Niagara, and containing about one Mile River and Lake frontage. —

I want this license for Messrs Thomas, Elliot & Hos; Moor, and Coy, of Niagara. — The license fee, to be $30. dollars. —

I recommend the same for your consideration, and approval. — And please have the license filled up, the same, as those submitted by me, and recommended to be granted to Messrs Bull, Botton, and Cantwell,

And with due respect, —

The Hon.ble
The Minister
&c, &c, &c.

I Have &c,
J W Ch
Fish.

Mrs and Mr Reid, —

I am in receipt of your letter. — I have already applied for your license to Ottawa, and received it, and I will run down some Morning next week, and bring it along. — It is just the same as it was last year. I am obliged to the boys, for putting up the Notices for me. — You can be getting pike gill nets ready. — With kind regards,

Yours, &c, J. W. Stark,
H. Ouseson

Hamilton, Ont.
1st March 1881.

Immediate

My dear Woolland,

Will you be so good as to enquire and let me know immediately who Mr Henry Wm Nurse, of Wollmount is? — He has complained to the department Ottawa, that I have licensed half of Ashbridges Bay, to one man, only! who fishes a 2½ inch mesh gill net, and the other parties not less than four inch mesh gill net. . .

Is he any thing to Charles Nurse, Hotel Keeper, at the Stumber. — Please send me half a dozen meshes of the pike gill net yours are fishing. —

Yours, &c.

J W Kerr

F.O.,

Hamilton, Ont.
1st March 1881.

Sir,

2, March 1881. —

I have the honor to send you Bank draft No; 395, for the sum of six dollars. — —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for Boat license already received and issued to George Lang, of Leslieville, for to fish pike gill nets, in Ashbridges Bay, during the months of March and April. —

The Honble

"The Minister of
Marine and Fisheries. —
Ottawa,

I Have, &c.

J W Kerr

F. Bunser.

dutiable or free periods. There are only two methods by which the real state of the fish trade relations between the United States and Canada could have been altered for sinister purposes. The first is by decreasing the quantity of dutiable fish exported from Canada so as at once to diminish the value of the American market to Canadian dealers and fishermen, and to reduce the amount of customs duties accruing thereon, the remission of which might be applicable as compensation in part for privileges conceded by the treaty. The second is by increasing the quantity of fish subject to the duty imported from the United States into Canada, showing thereby the reciprocal advantage of the Canadian market, and a proportionate sum of duties remitted by Canada in reduction of the offset chargeable against her. As the United States import returns would cover the first and their export returns disprove the second, any deceptions of this kind were simply impracticable. The statistical tables forming the basis and argument or the chief commercial feature of the inquiry, having been derived from the trade records of both countries, may readily be examined in detail and proved beyond question. Their general effect being incompatible with alleged use for improper purposes should be a sufficient answer to the charge of tampering with them. This class of evidence, however, is intimately related to the whole subject of the inquiry, and having also an important bearing on the future disposal of the fisheries question it is of the highest moment to maintain its complete reliability. If innocent mistakes exist, which Hind has been enabled to torture into any semblance of wilful perversion, these might be now carefully ascertained and acknowledged. The simple facts above mentioned appear, in my humble judgment, to completely refute the calumnious charges which Hind has taken infinite pains to concoct, and most unscrupulously iterates and reiterates in such various forms and opprobrious terms." Mr. Witcher continues at length to show that the commission did not depend on the statistics furnished with the case, but on the original returns, supported by oral evidence. He also shows the general correctness of the fisheries returns by comparison with the census of 1871, which agree very nearly with the catch of that year as given in the returns. He continues: "Mr. Hind complains that his earlier representations were never examined into or allowed to receive authoritative attention. The contrary is the case. He began his operations in the summer of 1878 by charging Messrs. Ford and Bergue with deliberately falsifying the official returns, having intentionally falsified statistics and suppressing facts, to the detriment of Canadian interests in the case. Both the British agent and his assistant, the secretary of the commission, had slighted and offended him, as indeed they did some other Canadians who labored earnestly along with them, and through whom the success which inured to their personal and official benefit was achieved; and Mr. Hind imagined, no

Sir —

3. March 1881.

I have the Honor to apply to you for a license to fish a Seine in Lake Ontario, between Ducks wharf, at the Humber, and Mac=Neels farm; situated in the township of Etobicoke, and County of Peel.

The rate to be at the moderate sum of Five dollars, for current year, the Seine to be about 250 yards. — In filling up this license, please insert all the usual protection clauses therein.

Also a Boat license, for to fish 380 yards of White fish, and 800 yards of Herring gill Nets, in Lake Ontario, in front of the township of Etobicoke, during this current year. —

Need 250 yards of pike gill net in the Humber, and tributaries, during March, April and up to the 15th of May. The amount for this license will be also five dollars. —

I recommend the same to the issue to Mr Charles Nurse, at the Humber and with due respect, —

I have &c,

Hon ble
The Minister
&c &c &c

Wm Hinds
Pr. O.

P.S. He declining to accept a Seining point on Toronto Island, so kindly granted him by you.

Wm Hinds Pr. O.

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doubt, that such a charge would not only render their names execrable throughout Canada, but would defeat their expectations of profit and preferment in England. The gravamen of his charge was, that the mackerel catch of the crucial year, 1871, which were correctly given in the fishery reports had been fraudulently altered by them in appendix A to represent a value of nearly two millions of dollars *less* than the real amount, with the view of influencing the commission unfavorably towards Canada. Mr. Ford answered this accusation in the Foreign office by referring to the fact of these figures having been compiled by my assistants in the Fisheries office at Ottawa. (See Sir J. Pauncept's letter dated 12th August, 1878, at page 33 of Mr. Hind's pamphlet). In the meanwhile the same table, which had been embodied in the case, was inadvertently republished without correction, but with an addition in the annual report of the Fisheries Department for 1877. Mr. Hind says he was horrified at this. Horrified at what he calls my 'weakness,' either because it accidentally exonerated the British agent and secretary and thereby foiled himself, or because it created suspicion of complicity on my part, he having since directed his slanderous charges alternately against myself and nameless associates, while still insisting upon the 'conscious acceptance of your (my) faithful official statistics by Messrs. Ford and Bergne renders it probable that his enmity now attaches about equally to all of us. Failing, however, to make such an impression as he anticipated Mr. Hind has since placed on record and partially published a further elaborate correspondence, in which he endeavors to create a belief in the American mind that the self-same falsified statistics were concocted and used to win money from the United States, and were afterwards presented to the Canadian Parliament as a trophy of success. By what process of distortion any series of figures originally altered to commit the crime of understating the produce of a principal Canadian industry favorably to the United States could be converted into fraudulent means of producing an entirely opposite effect it is impossible to conceive." With reference to Mr. Hind's motive in making the charge, Mr. Witcher says: "The most charitable construction of which the circumstances admit is that Mr. Hind's too clever faculty for discerning plots and intrigues associated with the Treaty of Washington, which quality he has indulged on former occasions, may have been playing some strong pranks with his reason."

My dear Jim,

1. March 1881,

I was in Messrs. Wood and Leggats on yesterday, to ascertain for you the price of a 300 yard Manilla rope, 1½" inch diameter, they made their calculation and said it would come to about $66, with $3 off, if you paid the cash down. – They will let you have it at 10½ cents a pound. – So you can write me your mind on the matter. – I may tell you, that I made my application for your grounds, and when licenses arrive here, will advise you. – With Kind regards,

Yours truly.

J W Kerr

Mr James Cantwell,

Niagara,

Ont.

My dear Paddy,

Yours received, I gave the order, for your twine, at Wood and Leggats, and they told me, they would express it to you, on yesterday.

I hope you are all well, has your brother got his gill nets yet, I will come down soon and see you. –

Yours. &c.

J W Kerr

Mr Pat Maud, –

Fisherman, –

Minona, Ont.

Hamilton, Ont.

3. March 1881,

9. February 1881.

Have the honor to receive from you the copy of an application, dated Nurse's Hotel, Humber, Mimico, 29. of January 1881, addressed to W. F. Whitcher Esqre Ottawa. — Wanting to know if he can get the privilege of fishing with a Seine on his own shore at the Humber, &c. &c. and with Orders, to report thereon. — —

In reply, I have the Honor to report after giving Mr Nurse's, application my thoughts & consideration, that I do not see how I can recommend the Seine hauling ground, licensed for several years past to Mr Pat. Gray of Toronto Island, and which is situated on the west side of the Humber, in Lake Ontario. — "A spring fishing ground, for Mullets and Suckers", — To be now given up to the sand Mr C. Nurse simply because he has built a Hotel near the place, long years after Mr Gray, had commenced fishing there; and the Hotel business is not sufficient for a livelihood which has made him do a little fishing, when business is dull. —

Mr Nurse states, "I have been trying to get this for the last four years", In reply I beg to report, that this is the first time, I have heard this; I am however aware that Mr Gray, has permitted Mr Nurse to Seine fish on the ground when he was not using the ground himself. — But that is, it appears no consideration to an ungrateful man like Mr C. Nurse, even altho' he did Catch $120, worth of Suckers, and mullets, under the permission given him, by Mr Gray, for to fish there in 1880, please see my last Annual Report. — —

Mr Nurse again states; "Now I think it best to write to Head quarters for it." In reply I have to report that lest you may think, that Mr Nurse by this language, implies, that he has heretofore already made an application to me for the ground, now occupied by Mr Pat. Gray, I may here report for your information, that he has never

But since he despatched his application, to Mr Whitcher, he has on second thought, perhaps under advice, also, written me, on the 1st February 1881, which I also, now submit for your information. - -

In this letter addressed to me Mr Nurse says: "Now I wish to "apply for the Lease to fish Seine from Dug Way, to MacNeils farm, dis="tance about 4. miles, and there is no place a man can draw a "Seine only at Dug Way, and my shore in that distance without I "clear the rocks from the bottom".

In reply to all this, I have to report that from Dug way, which is more than a mile east of the Humber, in Lake Ontario to Mr John Hucks wharf, is already licensed to Mess.rs Daniel Ward, and Pat.k Gray, and I must decline recommending any change being made this year. - - -

Besides Mr Nurse does not tell you the truth, he can and has already Seine fished between Hucks wharf and MacNeils farm, - to give him Seining grounds at the Dug way, and at his shore as he is pleased to call it, that have cost Ward and Gray, time and money, to clear those grounds is too thin' a pease of presumption if not an attempt at undermining both Wards and Gray, fishermen, and to take those old fishing grounds away from them. —

Mr Nurse, in his letter to Mr Whitcher Continues: "There is a man named Pat. Gray, who fishes on Toronto Island, and comes to fish on my shore every spring, driving me away, which I think is a hardship, as he has a large fishing privilege on Toronto Island". In reply to all this, I must say, that Nurse proves himself most ungrateful to Gray, who has permitted him to fish on his licensed ground, at the Humber, every Spring, when he was not there fishing himself. - It is only fished on by Mr Gray, for a short time each spring, before fishing commences on the Island; - And altho' Nurse uses the term my ground, and the word hardship for a special purpose; I can observe nothing of the kind about it. — The place is all open to the public no fence of any kind, between the Queens St. way and the Lake. —

And where Nurse built his Hotel, is a piece of sand made beach, of no earthly value, except to haul in on, and a thing for which it has been used every spring, on and off for the last 16 years, to my own Knowledge . - - -

Mr Nurse, says further! -

"I should have written to you, before this, but every year he was telling me, that it was his last year of fishing; but I now heard, that he was coming again this spring, which makes me think, they have been fooling me all the time".

In reply to all this, I have to report, that some short time since, after Mr C. L. Sticks, fisherman, was completely burned out at the Slumber, on Mr Gray, meeting Mr Nurse, in the City of Toronto, Gray informed Nurse, he would fish again this year, at the mouth of the Slumber, for Suckers and mullets, so that you may learn there is no fooling about it whatever, so far as Mr Gray is concerned, and Gray told me this day, he never told Nurse, he would never give him up the ground at any time. -

Mr Nurse finally says: I would like to leave the fishing from Dog way, to MacNeils farm a distance of about 4. miles, which takes in my shore. - By granting me this privilege you will much oblige, Yours truly,

Sd C. Nurse. -

In conclusion, I have the honor to report that I cannot recommend any change whatever being made in the existing seine hauling licenses of Messrs Ward and Gray, in the interest of Mr C. Nurse. - Besides Mr. C. Nurse offers no inducements whatever to either me or Mr Whitcher or the F. department, in his endeavour to take old, tried, trusty and good fishermans grounds away from them. -

And with due respect,

The Honble
The Minister,
" " "

I Have &c.
J W Kerr
F.O.

P.S. If Mr C. Nurse wants a Seine hauling ground on Toronto Island, he can have one there, on the south shore by paying $20. in advance, and a balance he still owes on his last years licence. —

Yrs &c. J W Kerr
F.O.

My dear Woolland,

If you are not very busy, Will you be pleased to meet me at the Grand Trunk station, Toronto, when the Train from here, will arrive there at 1.15. o'clock p.m, don't fail, on tuesday next.

Yours Sincerely
J W Kerr. F.O.,
Hamilton, Ont.
5. March 1881,

Mr W. B. Woolland,
Fisherman
Leskeville

My dear Sir,

I am just in receipt of your letter, if nothing happens, you may expect me by the Train ~~that~~ will arrive at the G. Trunk station Toronto, from here, say about 1.15, p.m, Bring the Gray, with you.. "On tuesday next".

Yours Sincerely
J W Kerr
F. Overseer
Hamilton, Ont.
5 March 1881,

Mr William Ward,
Fisherman,
The Island.
Toronto.

My dear Mr Plumb,

I have to thank you most kindly for the papers which you have sent me. -- I was down in Niagara last week. -- As a political friend and supporter of The Right Honble Sir, John A. Macdonalds, Government, and one of your constituents. I have carefully read over your speeches in the Mail daily, and I must say; that your noble stand up course in the House during the present Session, is being highly spoken of, by every thorough Conservative with whom I have conversed. —

"May a Cabinet appointment be soon your reward". —

Mr Whitcher, the Commissioner of Fisheries, who had been absent from his office, for some time, is now back again in the harness at work. — And as the Session's will be soon drawing to a close, please see him about our fish Breeding Fixings at Niagara, before the Session ends. —

Mr Whitcher, wrote me on 7th of January last — "It is impossible to get any thing done through Mr Plumb, until the Railway debate is over". —

I have got Keith out of the Barrack, which is now with the land in my own sole possession. —

Please also have the place set apart, by the Ministers proclamation for the artificial and natural propagation of fish, refer to section 15, of the Fisheries Act. —

I applied officially, and sent plan myself, to the department, on the 20. of December last, — so that on your asking for these things being carried into effect, I desire to post you in the matter. —

Please pardon and forgive me, for trespassing upon your time and attention, and with much respect, I have the satisfaction of occupying the proud position of being one of your warm supporters, and Humble friend, and Obedient Servant,

J. H. Kerr,

J. B. Plumb Esqre
M. P. H. of C.
H. of Commons, Ottawa,

J. Kerr
Hamilton,
3. Mar: 1881. —

Sir,

23. February 1881,

I have the honor to recommend that you will be pleased to grant Boat licenses to the undermentioned fishermen, resident on Burlington Beach, as per description of fishing ground, hereunto, attached. –

1, Robert Shaw, fisherman, Burlington Beach. – –
2, Richard Taaffe. –
3, Samuel Corey. –
4, Maurice Corey. –
5, David Fitch, –
6, John Fitch. – –
7, Benj. Folds. –
8, W. H. Corey. –
9, Daniel McGuyne. –
10, John Stargel. –
11, Alex. Rollo, –
12, William Rollo. –
13, Mortimer Corey. – –
14, Jonathan Corey. –
15, Charles Taaffe. –
16, Duncan McGillivray. –
17, Samuel Dynes. –

I cannot at present give you the number of yards of pike gill nets, each man will fish, but if you will be pleased to fill up one license, and send it to me, with blanks, "signed", for the remainder, I will fill them up myself, collect the money, make out return and report the same to you. –

From the severity of a long winter, I am induced for to make this application entirely in behalf of the B. Bch fisherman, I recommend the license fee, to be $3, each. –

Please send me, at your earliest convenience. – and with much Respect. I Have, &c.

J. M. Kerr

J. Greene

The Minister,
&c, &c, &c.

over

Copy.

In that part of Burlington Bay, situated East, and South of a line run direct from the end of the board fence, between Grant, and Harveys farms, on the bank of the Bay, township of Barton, and that is shaf on B. Beach. —

No fishing whatever to be done in any of the Inlets, nor in any part of the waters of the Bay, set apart for the propagation of fish. —

For the privileges of fishing from present date until the 8th of May 1881. —

23rd Feb: 1881. — Hilton, Fr.

5. March 1881. —

Telegraphed, Mr S. P. Bassett Esqre F. deptt not to finish the Audit of Bingham's accounts, until my letter just mailed to him.

Hilton, — F. Spence,

Tuesday 8. March 1881. —

At Clarksons Corners, delivered to Mrs Charlotte, and Francis Reid, their Semi hauling licence, thence to Port Credit, and Toronto. — I saw Mr P. Gray, W.B. Woollard, and Wm Ward, and obtained from them materials for report in reports to Mr Whitcher made by Charles Nurse agt Mess Ward and Gray, and Henry Wm Nurse as agt Wm B. Woollard and myself, went out at 6. a.m, came in 6.30. p.m. Miles 88. 14 & 8 — 1.50 R. fare 2.00 dinner 30, Gave Mr P. Gray his licence, west of Humber. —

John Gunsolle, and Wm Montgomery their Licence and Wm Ward, his Boat Licence. —

Private,

My dear Mr Bennett,

On the 28th of February last, I sent you, Memorandums on each item in Mr Bingham's acts, and diary, as requested by you. – I have done you my own knowledge of things in general, and from what I saw, and from what I heard.

On the same day, that I sent you the package, I wrote to a fisherman at Port Dover, and on whom I can rely, and I simply asked him the question; – "If Mr Bingham was in the habit of visiting the pounds Nets, on Saturday nights".

To which he replies,

Dear Sir. "You want to know about Bingham visiting the Pounds, I have worked 3 years in a Company here, and he never went out of a Saturday night, or any other time, until last fall, and then he went out once in close season". –

"And if you want to know any more about Bingham I could tell you a great deal more than that about him".

I find on looking over the copy of my remarks sent for your information. – That on 14, August, 4, September, 18th September, 23, October, and 30, October, Mr Bingham, stated he visited pounds at Port Dover and Port Rowsee. –

Also from 1st of November, to the 10th of November which I presume, was the only time he was visited them, "being close season". – I can get this person to give me all the other particulars, if you require me to do so.

I hope you will not have audited Mr Bingham's acts until you receive this. –

Yours, &c.

[illegible]

A. Gunner

5. March 1891.

S. P. Bennett Esqr
A. deptl.
Ottawa.

Private

My dear Mr Meilwot 7. March 1881.

I am in receipt of your Note of 26th ultimo, telling me you have a large lot of Salmon Trout fry to distribute from your place next spring, and you would like to give my section a good portion of them. —

"I am delighted to hear of the fry".

You say! your Bay and outside fisheries could be easilly reached with a lot of fry, &c. &c. &c. &c.

Before I go any further, I may tell you, B. bay, is not a fit place to deposit fry of this kind in; none of them could escape therefrom in to Lake Ontario, pike, perch, and bass are so numerous in B. bay, they would be all devoured up. — If you put them in Lake Ontario, on the reefs where S. Trout spawn, in front of your own township of Clarke, they will work their way up the Lake into my division.

We have already in B. bay, Salmon Trout, and even Salmon, young salmon too, and large White fish. — But I want no Salmon Trout fry, neither do the fishermen, for reasons above. — —

I have often applied for fry but have seldom got any I dont think it would be prudent for me now to deviate from the course laid down for me to pursue and make a request thro' the representative of the City of Hamilton, as the correct way, for such a place as B. bay. — Besides I will ask no favour from Mr Robertson, for B. bay, or any other place. — —

"I am a sound Conservative, I have been always so and I have never been anything else but in regard to the business in which I am engaged I will ask no favors from him?" —

If you want to send Salmon Trout fry into the waters of my division in L. Ontario, and distribute

them in the best places, at present best adopted for them for that purpose. – The Hon. Wm Macdougall, J. Charles Rykert, and J. B. Plumb, M. P.s, you know them, and they know you. –

The best places for to put Salmon trout fry, is where Salmon Trout spawn, "on the reefs" in front of Shoal point west of Whitby, in front of Frenchmans bay, in front of the Islands \ Scarboro, Toronto Island, Port Credit, Oakville, Bronte, Winona, Grimsby. – The 20, 16, 12, 10, 8, and 6, mile Creeks, 4 miles out, and Niagara. – –

In those places, the Salmon Trout fry you allude to, will be in their natural element, just the places which Providence intended for them. – "It will be no experiment to plant them there". –

Mr Robertson does not represent me, nor mine, nor the fishermen of B Beach; I heard from a Gentleman he tried to misrepresent me; whenever he attempts to tackle me, I am prepared for him. – But in the mean time I will say no more. – I would do anything on God's Earth for you. – No! I cant apply to Mr Robertson. –

A dog will lick the hand of some men, who smite him, and several men have as frequently done the same thing. – But for my own part I have never yet done so, and I will not do so now. –

Mr Kilbourn M P is a different person altogether from the other. He is honorable and an upright man. –

I helped at their Election to some extent in getting votes my political leanings being with their cause, but I am no constituent of theirs, neither are the fishermen. – Mr Carpenter, whom we supported agt Jos Rymal M P got defeated. I dont live in the City Hamilton I live in Barton, South Riding of Wentworth. – From the causes alluded to, I know you will excuse me. –

Yours fraternally,

J. W. Kerr

Y, March 1881.

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to find your license as usual, and with my best wishes for your welfare and prosperity, during this current season. — Believe me as ever, —

Yours &c,

J. W. Kerr,

Fishery Bailiff

Hamilton, Ont.

Mr John Garrett,
Fisherman,
H. & Erie.

7. March 1881,

Dear Woolland,

I send the fishery Act, turn to page 8, and read section 13, for George Lang, giving him only such time, as is necessary to lift his gill nets and move off. —

Read your license limits just for him, then read the law. — Yours &c,

9. March 1881,

J W Kerr
H. a,

Tuesday, 15, March 1881. —

On W. bay, and W. Beach, regulating about Pike gill net fishing, and spearing licenses went out at 8. a. m, came in at 5. p. m. Miles 36. H & S. 2,50. J. Kerr. —

Barney Nowell, was spearing, will pay. — Not paid yet.
John Snoake, has been spearing. — Not paid.
Charles Chisholm, has been spearing. — Not paid,
George Hunt, has been spearing. — Not paid,
Chas: Cripp, spearing, has not paid yet.
Wm Cripp — do. — do, —

Sir.

8. March 1881.

I have the honor to receive a copy of letter, dated Don Mount, Post office, Toronto, February 23, 1881. - and signed Henry Wm Nurse referred to me by you for report. -

In reply, I have the honor to report for your information, that after making enquiries and carefully reading over this letter, I have no hesitation in stating for your consideration that there is no truth whatever in the allegations set forth. —

In the first place, the assertion that I let ½ of Ashbridges Bay to one man only, is false and unfounded. - You were pleased to issue a license to Mr W. B. Woolland, of Leslieville, upon my recommendation for to fish pike gill nets in the lower end of Ashbridges Bay, "comprised between Woodbine Race park, and the outlet to Lake Ontario, on the Lake side, and to the large Ice House, on the Leslieville side of Ashbridges Bay, on land side". -

"To the out let, on the Lake side, is about 400 yards, to the Ice House, on the land side is about 600, yards, the Bay from the outlet to the Ice House is about 500 yards wide; while Ashbridges Bay, is more than 4 miles long, and in no place, taking Woollands licence limits therefrom, under half a mile, and in some places nearly 2. miles wide, so much for the first lie. -

2nd "The other part to several others, with the understanding they are not to encroach on the other part". -

up to this present date, Geo. Lang, Mrs Mary Jane Marsh, and Wm B. Woolland, are the only persons who have received licenses. I told Lang, and Wm Marsh, who fishes for his mother, that unless they had previously had permission from W. B. Woolland, they could not fish within his licensed limits: See section 13, of the fisheries act. - - I presume I was justified in doing this!. -

Mr John Mollard, of Leslieville, occupied the fishing ground at present licensed to W. B. Woolland, for several years before Woolland who is his son in law got the ground, I suppose you will agree with me, that there is not much to complain of, as against me, in this matter, Mollard gives up fishing, Woolland steps into his place. - - -

I have also, on the 1st of March, when I delivered to Geo: Lang, by post, his license, I notified him thus!.

If Mr W. B. Woolland, allows you to fish within his licensed limits, I have no objection, otherwise dont do it."—

3rd. And also, if he has power, to let this man use 2½" inch gill net, and the other parties not less than 4" inches mesh gill net. — —

In reply, I have to report that Mr W. B. Woolland, who! I presume is this man, refused to fishes 3⅛", and 4" inch mesh pike gill net, extension measure. and I have never given an order or instructions whatever to the contrary, to any one. —

4th. I would like to take out a license, but not while the waters are so unfairly let, and such partiality shown to one man. — Waiting your reply, I am, &c.

Sd Henry Wm Nurse. —

In reply to this, I have the honor to report, and from careful enquiries made, that there is no such man living in Don Mount, nor in the neighbourhood of the Don Mount, Post office, and no such person is even known to the Post Master there. —

I am informed the name is fictitious. — Your letter in answer to this lying production, still remains undelivered in Don Mount, P. office.

Hon: Minister, I have &c,

&, &, &. J W Kerr J.P.

P.S. —

please examine the letter again, and see if you are correct in the name of this person. —

J W Kerr J.P.

Sir,

9. March 1881.

I am again in receipt of a letter, dated Nurses Hotel, Humber, Minnico, 25. February 1881, - addressed to Mr Whitcher, by Charles Nurse "still persisting in Courting his neighbours fishing grounds". - referred to me by you, for my report. -

In reply I have the honor to report and refer you to my report dated 9th February last, on the previous application made by this man on this subject. - By which you will please learn that I cannot, and will not recommend Mr P. Gray's fishing ground, for which he holds a license for the year 1881. to be taken from him, and handed over to Mr C. Nurse. The fishing station is not vacant, and Mr Nurse knows all this for he has repeatedly fished there with Mr Grays permission. - - see section 13. of the Fishery act.

Mr Nurse, says; "I am not wishing particularly to fish at the Dug way, that is east of the Humber River, but would like to fish a Seine off my own shore, or have equal rights with Mr Gray, to do so". -

In reply to all this, I may report that Mr Gray has permitted Nurse to Seine haul at Dug way, where he caught White fish there last year, and this is within the licensed limits of Ward, and Gray; and also, Gray permitted him to fish on the west side of the Humber, which is within Grays own licensed limits. - Mr Gray told me on yesterday, that Nurse shall have no ~~equal~~ rights with him in any fishing grounds he now occupies. -

Mr Nurse says; "I am told that Messrs Ward and Gray's Island limits terminate on the east side of the Humber, My property is situated immediately west of the Humber, only Mr Gray, comes here to fish and he says he has a special license independant of the Island fishing ground". -

In reply to all this, I have to report, that this is all strictly correct, you are already in possession of all these facts. - And Nurse has had demonstration of it. -

Mr Nurse says; - "I do not expect you to grant me anything that would be illegal towards other fishermen or interfere with their just rights". - "The privilege that I am asking is very small, my property is only one and one half acre". -

In reply I have to report that it is all useless, besides too late in the day, for Mr Nurse to set up that he does not want other fishermans valuable fishing grounds when the sole object he has in view is to get those cleared fishing grounds by hook or by crook. - I shall not however, recommend any change to be made. -

Mr Nurse says; "The offer of the local Overseer, to fish a Seine on Toronto Island is of no use to me, even if he gave it to me for nothing. I do not wish to fish on Toronto Island".

To this I have to report, that the only object Nurse has in view, is by Hook or by Crook to get nice cleared fishing grounds belonging to other licensed fishermen, so that he may bask in the sun of prosperity at their cost and expense: - and especially at the cost of those good natured fishermen, who have always treated him so well, generous and kindly. - - I cannot do anything for him, except perhaps to fine him for fishing a gang of gill nets, which I heard from Mr William Ward of Toronto Island on yesterday he has set out in Lake Ontario; even before he gets his license, applied for; and without consulting me on the subject. - -

Mr Nurse says; "I am well acquainted with Mr and Mrs Murray, and they advised me to write to you respecting this matter, and you would do me Justice".

In reply, I have only to refer you to my former reports of the 12th and 20th May 1879, when Mr Nurse gave the dept and myself much trouble, labor, and expense. "No injustice has ever been done to him", He done every thing he could, they to over ride the constitutional authorities of the fisheries Act, and to annoy Mr A. L. Hicks as fine and as good a young man as can be found this day in the City of Toronto, than a licensed fisherman at the [illegible], occasionally in his fishing, and renting out row Boats, he may have come in contact with him. - -

Ultimately Mr Stokes place was set fire to, about 2 months ago and all he possessed was burned up, including 15 Row Boats; and as if by a Miracle, he, his wife and small children escaped from the flames. –

The sketch of the Humber Bridge, is correct, except the Dog way is only 1¼ miles thereform. – –

Mr Nurse, has two Seine hauling grounds; one at the Mimico, and another at the Etobicoke; within the limits I have applied to you for to license to him, with the entire Humber, and marshes for pike gill nets, and 4, Miles frontage in Lake Ontario for Seine and gill nets, and he must or ought to be satisfied. –

The Humber should be worth at least $300, in Mullets and Suckers this year, to Mr Gray. – If the opening up of the Upper Lakes is late, it may be looked upon as a Sure thing; so that the privilege Nurse is endeavouring to undermine Gray in, is not so small, after all is said and done. – –

I have no other object in view, in giving you my plain statement and facts; and no private influence has, nor can ever cause me to deviate from the honest course laid down by the department, for my guidance upwards of 16 years ago. –

And with profound respect. – – I Have, &c. &c. &c.

The Honble The Minister,
&c, &c, &c.

J. W. Kerr
J. overseer.

Mr Thos: Hetherington,
Leslieville. – –

{ please find your license here = with, If Mr W. B. Woolland, permits you to fish within his licensed limits in Ashbridges bay, I have no objection, But dont do so, against his will, as the penalty is $100, fine and costs, and forfeiture of gill nets. – Many thanks for $6.

Yours truly,
J. Wilker, – &c. –
" "
9 March 1881,

My dear Sir,

I have applied to the department at Ottawa, for your licenses for this current year, for to seine haul at the four &c - - - &c and I have to inform you the dep.t has seen fit to grant the same, &c. &c. &c. -

I &c. - Believe me, &c.

Yours,

John Vokes

F. o.

Jas. Cantwell,

Fisherman,

Niagara.

11th March 1881.

Notice,

The fishermen at the Town of Niagara will please take Notice, that no fish Nets of any description can be set on or within 2 miles of the seine grounds in L. Ontario, at Niagara until 15 days after all seining in the Lake and River, has been given up, "for season of 1881."

Sol lines, and Stringer lines and hooks, must be also kept outside, and away at a distance of 2, miles from all the seine hauling grounds. -

Hamilton, Ont.

10. March 1881.

By Order,

John Vokes

Fishery Overseer

My Dear Sir,

Toronto, 24 March 1881.

My Wife of Lockieville is the man who took the letter from Don Mount Post office. -

W. B. Mowbray.

My dear Sir,

Yours received, please send on your money, and I will apply for, and I hope get your licenses, as usual, With Kind regards,

William Lawson Esqre,
Stoney Creek,
P. Office, Ontario.

Yours truly,
John W. Kerr
F. O., 11. March, 1881.

My dear Sir,

Hamilton, Ontario, 14. March 1881. –

In reply to your application for licenses to fish 380 yards, White fish gill net, and 800, yards of Herring gill nets in Lake Ontario, in front of the township of Etobicoke, and 250 yards of pike gill nets in the Humber and Marshes. – On receipt of $5, I will send you this licence by post. – I may here state, that when in Toronto, last tuesday, I heard you had a gill net out there fishing in Lake Ontario. – About this matter the fine is $20, and Costs, so remember you must not repeat it.

I applied for, and received for you a licence for to fish a Seine 250 yards long, between Weeks wharf and McGrails farm, township of Etobicoke this licence will be also $5. – I find you paid me $7, last year; on reference to your licence you will find the amount is $10, dollars, leaving $3 dollars, still due by you. –

Will you be pleased to send me $13, dollars. – On receipt of which I will send your licences as above. –

Yours, &c.
John W. Kerr,
Fishery Overseer

Mr Charles Nurse,
Humber, Mimico, P. Office,

My dear Sir,

You have forgotten to send me your license money as promised me when I last saw you at Fort Erie, on the 16th December last.

Will you be so good as to send it to me, so that I may at once apply for, and get up your license from Ottawa.

With my Kind regards to you and yours,

Believe me,

Yours Sincerely,

John W Kell,

Fishery Overseer,

Hamilton, Ontario

14. March 1881.

Mr Chester A. Harris,

"Fisherman

Fort Erie.

My dear Sir,

If you intend to Pound Net fish this year, at or about Point Abino, in Lake Erie, please let me know immediately, so that I may apply at once for your license. - -

"The license fee, will be fifty dollars for each pound, for this current year. - Please remember me Kindly to your father, Mother, and brothers, and believe me. -

Yours Sincerely,

John W Kell

F. Overseer,

Hamilton, Ontario

14, March 1881. -

Mr Thomas Ramsay Jr.

"Fort Erie P. O.

Ontario.

My dear Ramney,

On reference to my diary, I find I was at Port Erie, where I met you, and your brother Mr Thomas Ramney, on the 16th day of December 1881. –

On that occasion you promised me faithfully, you would send me the balance of your pound Net license fee, then due, by or about New years. – This you have not done yet!"

The fisheries Act says; Sub section 2, Section 15, "Licensees, of fisheries shall have no claim to renewal of licenses if in arrears of rent." –

Please let me hear from you soon. With Kind regards to Mrs Ramney, Herbert, &c. Believe me,

J. Wesley Ramney Esqre
&c, &c, &c
Ridgeway, Ontario

Yours Sincerely.
John Walker, M.D.,
Hamilton, 14. March 1882,

P.S. Please send me all particulars, where good New pound Nets can be bought :– giving names, prices &c, &c,

John Walker M.D.,

Mr J. W. Kerr,
Sir,

Lucaston, March 15, 1881,

I want to let you know that the Scott Boys are fishing at the Pine (Grove) Bush, and Thompson's point, about three nights out of a week, and catching Boat loads of fish. – Those boys are from American side and I think that there ought to be some plan to stop them. – I remain, Yours Respectfully

Jas. John Wadsworth,

see over next page.

Private.

My dear Sir, --

I have just written Mr J. L. Kilvert, M. P. — of Hamilton, asking him to apply to The Honble The Minister of Fisheries for 10.000, Salmon Trout fry, and for 10.000, White fish fry, for Puslinch Lake. --

I applied a few days ago about your Lease, if you send me $20, the annual license fee, I placed on the Lake, I will send it down and try and bring the department to issue to you the license at once. —

Yours fraternally,
John H. Kerr
F. O.
Hamilton, Ont.
16. March 1881,

John Wadsworth Esq
P. O.
Puslinch, —

Stationery 70. 4

My dear Harry. — Hamilton, Ont.

I wish to draw your attention immediately to this letter, which I received this afternoon, from your friend John Wadsworth; Is there any truth in it -- If so! please step down at once and take the Boats and Net from them. --

Is the River in fishing order at all! — Will you please inform me, and if you think well of it, I can drop down some night, by your appointing the time before hand, and meeting me at your station. --

With my warm regards to you all, Believe me as usual. Yours Sincerely,

Mr Harry Sheppard,
Queenston,
Ont.

John H. Kerr, F. O.,
16. March 1881.

Private.

My dear Sir,

Will you be so good when making application to have Salmon Trout fry, sent from the Govt. Fish Breeding Hatchery, at Newcastle, Ontario and planted at Port Credit, Oakville, Bronte, Victoria and Grimsby in Lake Ontario, to also apply for to have 10,000, planted in Puslinch Lake, which is situated in the township of Puslinch, and County of Waterloo. – This Lake is about 2 miles from the Village of Hespler, and is in every manner a splendid small Lake of pure spring water, containing 400, acres besides small bays and coves.

There is at present an application from Mr. John Davidson of Guelph for to Lease or Lease this lake, before The Honble. The Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and I have strongly recommended the same to be granted, via my report dated 12 Nov: 1880. – Get it, and peruse it. –

If convenient you might call at the fisheries dept., and see Mr. Whitcher the Commissioner of fisheries, and ask to see my report. –

Both Mr. John Davidson, and his father, are sound Conservatives, and warm political friends and supporters of The Right Honble. Sir John A. MacDonald, and his administration. –

I am not aware, whether you know the Mssrs. Davidson or not, they are good Conservatives, and the father is well and favorably known to Sir John, for many years. –

When you read my report you will see therein everything, connected with the beauty of Puslinch Lake, and I would like very much if you would be pleased to recommend to have 10.000, White fish fry, planted therein from the Sandwich White fish Hatchery. –

The Lake is the property of the Dominion Govt. and as such is deserving of Consideration, and should be stocked with all our choice fish. – You can tell Mr. Whitcher if you think proper, that I have drawn your attention to Puslinch Lake. –

"Bowling-Bay is not adapted for Salmon Trout fry".
With due respect.

I am,

F. E. Kilbourn Esqre
M. P. &c. &c. &c
House of Commons,
Ottawa.

Your Obt. Servant,
John W. Kerr, J. P.
Hamilton, Ontario
14. March 1881

P. S. I have written Mr Davidson to say I applied to you.
J. W. Kerr,

My dear Woolland. — Hamilton, Ontario, 14. March 1881.

"Yours of the 10th instant, received; I expected George Lang, would do just as you mention he has done, you should have waited for the receipt of the Fisheries act, which I mailed to you on the 9th instant, before you talked to him. — When I sent him his license on 1st of March instant, I said: "If Mr W. B. Woolland allows you to fish within his licensed limits, I have no objection, otherwise don't do it." And on the 9th instant, when I sent Stotherington, his license, I wrote him: "If Mr W. B. Woolland, permits you to fish within his licensed limits in Ashbridges Bay, I have no objection, but dont do so, against his will as the penalty is $100, fine; and costs, and forfeiture of all fish nets". — So you may now perceive that both Lang, and Stotherington, were in possession of the Law, Most likely before you received the copy of the Fishery Act, that I sent you. —

If you have not read the 13, section of the Act, for Lang, do so, on receipt of this; give him another trial. — If after you do this; if he does not lift his fish nets, and get off your licensed limits, the 13 section of the Act, tells you what you can do. — — —

There is the law for you, and by this law you are all powerful in yourself, in your proper person as a Licensee of the ground

under the 13, Section of the Act. - And if you serve his nets be sure and keep them, or send them to me; and sell the fish, on no account give them back to him again, if you serve them!.

Yours, &c. &c,

Mr W. B. Woolland
Licensed fisherman,
Leslieville Ont.

John W Kerr J.P.,
14, March 1881.

Sir,

22, March 1881.

I have the honor to apply to you for a Boat license for Mr Octavius L. Hicks, resident at the Humber, in the township of Etobicoke, for to fish 300, yards of pike gill nets in the Humber River, to be the same as last year for this year. $5.00

2, Also a Seine license for Mr William Cowan of the township of Pickering, to be the same as last year, for this year. $5.00.

3. And also a Seine license 250 yards long, for Mr John Peterman of Port Colborne, to fish same in Sugar Loaf bay in Lake Erie, township of Wainfleet, for this current season, $5.00.

The Honble,
The Minister
&c, &c, &c.

I Have, &c
John W Kerr
J.P.,

Wrote to Mr, A. Lytle, The Humber, Mimico P.O, this day, as above. J. W. Kerr, J.P.,

1/, Thursday, 24. March 1881. —

At Toronto, to attend trial before Mr Harrison Police Magistrate, in case of Woolland vs. Lang, was examined, case dismissed, see my report, went out at 7. a.m. came in at 5. p.m, Miles 86, My fare, $2.00, dinner 50.

Report is dated 24. March 1881. C. Nurse paid me $13, license fee, $3; for last year, balance due, and $10, for this current year. - - -

Sir,

24. March 1881. —

I have the honor to send you Bank draft, No: 461, for the sum of Twenty three dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows;

1. Charles Nurse, "The Number, Balance on last years li= cense, received this day. — $ ¢. 3.00.

2. Charles Nurse, do. — "For Seine hauling license, and Boat license, for to fish in Lake Ontario, &c. during this current year, $5, each, = 10.00.

3. Chester A. Harris, Fort Erie, "For Seine hauling li= cense to fish in the Niagara River, same as last year, $30, Sent on afet, 10.00

Total $ 23.00¢.

The Honble, The Minister, &, &, &.

I Have the Honor to be, &, &c &c, John W Kerr, J.P.

PS. I have already received the C. Nurses licenses! —

J.W. Kerr, J.P.

My dear Captain Seale. —

I am in receipt of your of the 22d, instant. —

In reply, I have the honor to state for your information, that I intend coming to Niagara, on monday evening next, as you desire. —

I will also bring with me a plan of the property you refer to, I am very unwell or I should come right away. —

Please accept my warm respects and regards for your Kind Courtesy to me in this matter.

Yours very Sincerely

J.W. Kerr

Hamilton, Ont.

26. March 1881

Captain J. B. Seale, in charge of the Military Reserve. Niagara,

Sir,

24. March 1881. –

I have to report that on this day, I attended a trial, before the Police Magistrate, Toronto, brought by Mr W. B. Woollard, of Leslieville, a licensed fisherman, against George Lang, of Leslieville, another licensed fisherman, – For fishing gill nets within his licensed limits. – See section 13 of the Fisheries act.

Woollard lifted the gill Nets, on last Saturday, and the case coming up to-day, the case was dismissed without costs, and the Magistrate ordered Woollard to return the fill Nets to Lang. –

The reason the Magistrate done so, was that while Woollard, had a license to fish within certain limits in Ashbridges bay; Langs license; says; "In Ashbridges Bay, Lake Ontario in front of the township of York, during the months of February, March, and April;" – I may say here, that Ashbridges Bay, is all within the City of Toronto. –

Will you be pleased now, to cancel these licenses, issued by you, on the 16th day of February last, to Mess Rs W. B. Woollard, George Lang, Thomas Hetherington and Mrs Mary Jane Marsh, and issue others as follows; bearing date 16th of February 1881. –

1. Wm B. Woollard, of Leslieville, City of Toronto, fisherman, a license for to fish a Small Seine, 80 yards long, and 600 yards of pike gill nets, in Ashbridges Bay, comprised between the lower end of the said Bay, Woodbine race park, or race course, and the outlet to Lake Ontario on the Lake side, and from this outlet by a direct line, to the large Ice House, on the Village side of Leslieville; and in all the waters within the same; say up to the 31st day of December 1881. – license fee, $ 10.00 c.

"For net fishing of any Kind to be carried on within the said limits, between 6. o'clock on Saturday night, and 6. o'clock on the following monday morning" –

2, Mrs Mary Jane Marsh, of Leslieville, Widow of the late Lewis Marsh; "For a Boat license to fish 500, yards of pike gill nets, in Ashbridges Bay, except in that part, already licensed to Mr W. B. Woollard, and which is situated in front of the City of Toronto; say up to the 30th of April next. —

"For net fishing of any Kind, to be carried on within the said limits, between 6. o'clock, on saturday night, and 6. o'clock, on the following monday morning." — Free,

3, Mr George Lang, of Leslieville, To be the same as Mrs Marsh, gill nets 500 yards, license fee $6.00,

4, "Thomas Stathington, of Leslieville, To be the same as Mrs Marsh, 500 yards, license fee, $6.00,"

When I sent the license of the 16th of February, to George Lang, of Leslieville; I wrote him; "If Mr W. B. Woollard, allows you to fish within his license limits, I have no objection, otherwise dont do it."

The Magistrate however decided that I could not make any change in, or connected with the license; from the original wording given in Lang's license as set forth above; filled up by the department. —

By the answered memorandum handed me, today, by W. B. Woollard, you will find the name of the person, who took out the letter addressed by the department to Henry Wm Nurse, Don Mount, P. Office please pardon me for the trouble I am giving. —

The Stoneble

I Have, &c,

The Minister,

J W Kerr

&c, &c, &c.

J. P.

Q8. Woollard, will stop fishing pike gill nets on 30, of April.

J W Kerr J.P.

Sir,

25. March 1881.

I have the honor to apply to you for a Licence, to fish 250 yards, of a legal White fish Seine, between the east side of the Grass, and the Eastern limits of the City of Toronto, in Lake Ontario, in front of Ashbridges Bay, during this current year. --

I recommend that you will be pleased to grant the same, to Mr W. B. Woolcard of Leslieville, at the rate of $5.00

And please insert therein the Saturday night clause &c. &c.,
And the clause to liberate all Salmon, and small White fish caught alive!

The Honble
The Minister,
&c, &c, &c

I Have &c,
John W. Kerr - F.O.

Sir,

25. March 1881,

I Have the honor to apply to you, for a Boat licence, for Mr W. B. Woolcard of Leslieville, for to fish about 2.000 yards of White fish, and Salmon Trout, gill nets, in Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Scarborough; at the rate for this current year. - $5.00.

The Honble
The Minister,
&c, &c, &c.

I Have &c, - &c. -
John W. Kerr,
F.O.

Monday 28. March 1881.

At 8. Br.; Queenston and Niagara, went out 3.30. p.m. came in at 8.20. p.m. Miles 60. Rig fare 3.25. tea and bed 50 ct. - Saw Captn Geale in charge of Military Reserve on my arrival at Niagara, on my arrival. Arranged to go and see the Old Fort George, property, at 10. a.m. next morning. -

My dear Mr Bowman. –

Will you be so good, as to let me know which of the Langs.– fisherman – it was you had fined, for killing and stealing one of your geese. –

And what penalty amount was, with costs. And which of them, it was, who was taken up, for stealing pork, and what was done to him for this offence. – –

You remember the Steamer, "Advance", being wrecked or drawn on the beach in front of the township of Pickering; did the Langs save 33. passengers in front of the township of Pickering on that occasion. –

If such a thing happened, you must have known it. – please answer, and give me all particulars. –

And with kind regards, –

Hamilton, Ont.
28. March 1881.

Yours truly,
John Wilson
Fishing Saver.

Tuesday. 29. March 1881. –

At Niagara, went and saw Mr Plumb, and remained waiting for Captn. Leale, until 2. p.m. went up then with him and saw the place I required; he promised to let me have it, went out at 9. 30. a.m. came in at 3. p.m. Miles 4. Board per day. $1.00.

Leale, said he would recommend me to get a 21 years lease of the place, at $1. per year. –

Get Mr Plumb. M.P. to write the Honble The Minister of Militia to grant me the place.

Thur Wednesday, 30. March 1881,

Niagara, St. Catharines, and Hamilton, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 1. p.m. Miles 60. My fare paid on 28th instant. Breakfast & dinner 50¢. —

Drafts 50¢. Telegraph, 39¢. Quills 40¢. Paper 15¢. 10¢.

Private, Highland Creek,

My dear Sir, March. 29, 1881,

In answer to yours of 23rd in reference to Lang. With regard to the goose - you desired information about, I shall give you the particulars as follows; Wm Lang, Wm Ernest his cousin who was fishing with him, and a young man named Adams, came down to mouth of Rouge, on a Sunday afternoon. Lang having left, Ernest and Adams, killed the goose, I seeing them in the act, and going towards them, they saw me and fled to the bush, and I not being positive who they were secured their boat, in a short time the last two returned, and a few moments afterwards Lang Wm came when we were talking about the stolen goose, and on day following Ernest and Adams, came to settle rather than suffer prosecution, and paid off 2. I accepted 50¢, each, as they pleaded to be let go. - Regarding the Jobs, at Port Union, Wm Lang, Peter Leslie, (Yankee Pete) Bud Black, were arrested on Suspicion and taken to Toronto for trial, and kept 2, or 3, days, but for want of evidence were discharged.

I remember well, the wrecking of the "Adamine", she was towing a raft of square timber down the Lake, and while between, Frenchmans Bay, and Whitby, encountered an East storm, her steering apparatus failed, and losing control of her, they let go of the raft, she drifted and rolled in the trough of the sea, until she came up, nearly opposite my house. - When I arose in the morning, Sunday, I saw her with a signal of distress and I went down to the shore, from there, went to Port Union, for assistance; Lang, Wm, and several others came back with me; in the mean time, the steamer had dragged

her anchor, and grounded on the shore. The men lowered the life boat, and placed the Captain's wife, with her two children, and a female Cook, into it, 2. or 3. men got in also, to shove the boat ashore, it being attached to steamer by a rope. — When about half way to shore the rope got fast in the rocks in the bottom, and held the boat, in the breakers, beyond our reach, until she filled with water, I signalled the man in the bow of boat, to cut the rope, it drifted towards the shore, and I waded out, and carried the Captain's wife, one of the children and the Cook to terra firma, Lang, Wm or some one else, brought the other child, all were very much exhausted. — The life boat being stowed in, was no more use, and Lang, Wm returned to Port Union, brought his fishing boat down on a G. T. R. Stand Car, and when the Storm had somewhat abated, he with his brother, Geo: and another person, went out, and brought the remainder ashore, in two loads. — The whole party on board, numbered about twenty. — —

Unfortunately Lang, Wm got little credit from St. Lawrence Nav: Company, to whom the Boat "Advance", belonged. —

They applauded me for rescuing the inmates of the Boat, when they were in imminent danger of being overwhelmed by the breakers, and for my hospitality in attending to their wants. — They sent their Agent to me after the Wreck was taken away, to see that I was duly rewarded for my Kindness to them, and even published, by the Captain's wish in the press an account of my hospitality in providing for them.

Captain Coates and his Wife thought we could not be too well rewarded for our Kindness to them.

As for Lang, saving life, no one was in danger but those who attempted to go ashore in the life Boat.

Yours Truly
Wm Cowan.

J. W. Kerr Esqr
Hamilton, Ont

Read, Copied and submitted, to the Minister for his information.

J W Kerr, F.O.,

Hamilton, Ont,

2. April 1881.

P.S. Only it would place George Lang, in a complete state of starvation with his wife and little child. I would have recommended pike gill net fishing to be abandoned in Ashbridges Bay, - Mr Mack would feel the effects of such a step, and so would Mr Mallard, This roaring nonsense, must be stopped Respectfully Yrs

J W Kerr

H. B,

I will be soon well again, and I will wheel some of them into line, J W Kerr, F.O.,

J W Kerr,

F.O.

April 1st Friday 1881.--

At Toronto, saw Lackey, and Geo: Lang, Tom Fuming and old Captain Morris, about a steam wharf on Haulans point. - see my report of the 4th April 1881. - went out at 8. a.m. came in at 5.30. p.m. Miles 88. My fare $2.00 & dinner 60 ¢,

My dear Sir, 6. April 1881,

Will you be pleased to meet me at the Andrew McCullays Hotel, Market square, Toronto, on next Saturday, the 9th instant, at 1.30, o'clock, and bring your license for fishing with you, as I wish to take it up, and give you another in its place. -

Yours truly

J W Kerr F.O.,

Mr Thos: Netherington,
Fisherman,
Leskeville Ont

Sent a similar one to Geo: Lang, fisherman
Leskeville Ont

31. March 1881. –

I Have the honor to send you Bank draft, No: 483, for the sum of Forty dollars. – –

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, as follows; for this current season. – –

1. W. B. Woolard, fisherman, Leslieville, Balance in full for license received last season, and delivered long since, 5.00

2. Wm Coman, Scarboro, license applied for, and not yet received for this season. – 5.00

3. Thos: Hetherington, Leslieville, For pike gill net license to fish in Ashbridges Bay, already received and delivered. – 6.00

4. Simon Peter Stype, and Son, - Spearing license, – 1.00

5. Wm Depew, do, do. – 1.00

6. Wm Bates, do, do, 1.00

7. Wm Henry Waterbury, – do, do. – 1.00

8. Messrs George Sleeman, and John Davidson, of Guelph For a license of Puslinch Lake, situated in the Township of Puslinch, and County of Waterloo; as per plan and my report to you of the 12th November 1880. – which I very strongly recommend you will be pleased to grant for this current season, at the rate agreed upon by the John Davidson and myself, say 20.00

Total $ 43.00

Your obedient Servant

I Have, &c,

John McKenzie

P.S. I have about 35 spearing licenses which I will send you by one boy.

Telegraph 40¢

Sir,

4. April 1881,

I have the honor to receive Mr James. Beaty, M. P. letter for Thomas Fleming, in behalf of Messrs Aylesworth, and Morris, of the City of Toronto; — "for leave to build a wharf at Hanlan's point, Toronto Island", referred to me to report upon". —

In reply, I have to report, that I proceeded to Toronto on Friday last, and saw Captain Morris, on the subject; who informed me the arrangement between himself and Aylesworth, for to build a wharf on Hanlan's point, has fallen through, fallen to the ground. — —

I subsequently met Mr Thomas Fleming, and he gave me a similar account. — —

It appears Morris and Aylesworth, disposed of their interest in Flemings wharf to Captain Turner, named in the application, who has already a privilege of running his Steamers during the Summer to Messrs Gray, and Hanlan's wharfs, and so does not yet need a New one. —

And with due respect,

I have, &c.

John W Kerr

P. C.

Hamilton, Ont.

Honble
The Minister
of
Ag.

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to tell Wm Marsh of Leslieville, to meet me at your place Hotel, next Saturday, when the 11.35 a. m. Train, arrives at Toronto. — Say I will be at your place about 1.30 p. m. — Also please tell him to bring the license for this year with him, as it is cancelled, and another for license, issued in its place which I will hand him, on giving up the license he has, and is at present fishing under. —

And will you be pleased to give Wm the enclosed, for him to deliver for me to Messrs Thos; Hetherington and George Lang, and oblige,

Yours Sincerely

J W Kerr P. C.

6. April '88

Mr And; McCullery
Mr: Hotel,
Market Square
Toronto.

private! –

My dear Woolland. –

Meet me at the Andrew McCullay's Market Square, Toronto, on Saturday at 1.30, p.m, and bring this years license with you. –

All your licenses, that I issued already for Ashbridges Bay, have been cancelled, and New licenses issued, confining you in your limits, and making all the rest Keep away from you. None of you can fish between 6. o'clock, on Saturday evening, and 6. o'clock, on the following Monday morning." –

I depend upon you to tell no man, what this letter contains! – I have written to Billy Marsh, Geo; Lang, and Thomas Hetherington, for to meet me at McCullays also.

I enclosed the letters on yesterday to Mr Andrew McCullay. – If you see Mr Billy Montgomery, John Jansall, and Moise – please tele them I will be at McCullays Hotel at 1.30, p.m. on next Saturday, and I will be glad to see them there, and if you should happen to see Mr Gray, tell him also. – I am still very sick, or I should come down sooner. –

And with Kind regards believe me yours Sincerely,

John W Kerr J.P.
Hamilton, Ont.
7. Mar; 1881,

Mr W. B. Woolland
Fisherman
Deslionville, Ont

P.S.

You may tele your friend Mr Lackey, confidentially.

Yours JWKerr

private,

My dear Snook, 7. April 1881.

It appears from instructions I have just received from the fishery department, Ottawa, that if the weather is fine, I shall be with you on tuesday next.

Have you been fishing? – Have you been on Long point lately? – I would like to see Mr Leary, the Steward of Long point, Company, if you could send him word by Dick Clarke, to come over to your place. – Have you got any wild geese or ducks yet! – if you are fishing keep a mess, I will pay you for them! I am happy to tell you Mr Wm Leary, has been reappointed fishery Overseer, for Long point, I know you will be glad to hear this, and with kind regards. –

I am as ever, Yours truly,

John W Kerr F.O.

P.S. – I have been very sick, or I would be with you sooner! – Bill Leary, is a good man, and I will get him to be kind to you. –

J W Kerr. F.O.

My dear Sir, –

Many thanks for your long letter, I send your license, and will write you soon, I have been sick, but I am getting better,

With kind regards; and hoping you will keep a tight rein on Joe, Believe me as usual. –

J W Kerr F.O.

Wm Cowan Esqre
Hiland Creek,
Post office, Ontario

Hamilton, Ontario, 7. apr: 1881.

Postage stamps 50 cts.

Sir, 7. April 1881. —

I have the honor to send you Bank draft 516
No: 516, for the sum of Thirty dollars. —

Will you be pleased, to apply this amount, on account of fishing licences for last year as follows; —

1. Mr Edward Staulan, For fishing license to Seine haul on Staulan's point, Toronto Island, in front and rear, of his property there, this amount is for last year, but was only received by me this day. — — $5.00

"Please send me a similar license for this year!"

2, Mr John W. Ramsay, Ridgeway, a part of a balance, due on his pound Net license for last year; "The balance for last year, in a few days" 25.00

Total $30.00

up to this! $304.00. J W Kerr. F.O.

Will you be pleased to send me a license for Messrs John W. Ramsay, and Thos; Ramsay of Ridgeway, township of Bertie, and County of Welland, for to fish four pounds in Lake Erie, this current year, between Mares point and Rose point, at the usual rate of $50, per pound $200. —

The Honble I have &c.

The Minister of Marine and Fisheries Ottawa. — J W Kerr, F.O.

My dear Sticks, Please find your licence herewith.. As soon as I see you or whenever convenient you can pay me. My warm regards to Mrs children, and yourself.

Mr G. L. Sticks, "The Humber, Mimico, P. Office,

Yours Sincerely J W Kerr F.O.

Hamilton 7. April 1881

Sir,

7. April 1881,

I have the honor, to send you herewith, for your information, consideration, and approval, my Account and diary of actual expenses, and disbursements for travel incurred by me &c, while employed on active duty, during the quarter, &c, ending the 31st day of March 1881. —

Amounting to the sum of		$81.60.
Add, John W. Kerr, F.O, Office Rent, Voucher No:	1,	5.00,
" John W. Kerr, do, for services rendered, up to 1st May 81 in protecting, a spracked hoot stream, do No:	2,	8.00,
" John W. Kerr, F.O, For telegraphs,	" 3,	—.65,
" John W. Kerr, F.O, For Stationery, &c.	" 4,	2.85,
" John W. Kerr, F.O, For postages, &c,	" 5,	3.13,
" J. W. Kerr, F.O, " Railway fares, &c	" 6,	11.00,
" Wellington Hull, F.O, Erie Village, Travelling Expenses for 1880,	" 7,	15.00.
	Total	$127.83.

In submitting this a/c for your consideration, I beg most respectfully to report, that I charge only for 1497. Miles travelled. — I travelled more, but kept no record of it. — And with due respect,

The Hon. the Minister, &c, &c, &c. Ottawa,

I have, &c.
John W. Kerr,
F.O.

Sent public Notice, close season, dated, Ottawa, 4. April 1881, — from Commissioner — this 11 April 1881. —

do, do J. W. Ramsay, Ridgeway, 2. John Leavitt, Pt. Erie, 3. Chester A. Harris, Port Erie. — 4. Jas: Hawkins St. Catts. 5. Harry Shaffner, Queenston, 6. do: 14. Grobb, Beamsville, 7. Thos: Elliott, Niagara, — 8. Peter Nath, Pt. Dalhousie, Hamilton —

J. W. Kerr,
F.O. —

My dear Sir. — 8. April 1881. —

I send you thirty six public Notices signed by W. H. Whitcher Esqre Commissioner of Fisheries, Ottawa, dated the 4th day of April 1881. — Setting apart Puslinch Lake, for the propagation of fish, &c. &c. &c.

Will you be pleased to post up at present, at Hespler, and other public places, about 24. of those Notices.

Except receiving the Canada Gazette, containing this Notice I have had no communication yet from Mr Whitcher since I sent him your Attorney, to Ottawa. —

Yours fraternally —
J. W. Crow
F. O.

John Davidson Esqre
Guelph, Ontario

Saturday, 9. April 1881. —

At Toronto, and Leslieville, gave Woolcards wife, two Licenses for her Husband, and two copies of the Commissioner's Public Notice — on close seasons, and Net fishing, — George Langs wife refused to take either the proper license or a Notice. — Saw George Lang, in Leslieville, gave him the new license and a copy of Notice, and told him to lift his gill nets, and set them ~~there~~ no more. Saw Mrs Marsh, asked for Billy. She had he was out on the Marsh. — Went back to the City, — remained about Andrew McCulley's and fish Market until half past 2,30, p. m. — Then left for Young st. Rly Station; gave Andrew McCulley, license for Mrs Marsh, and a public Notice, went out at 6. a. m. came in at 7. p. m., Miles 104, Rly 2.00. 44 B. 1.50. dinner 25. Gave Mr Boswell, Stanley license for year 1880, having got his license for 1880, — only 7th instant. — —

My dear Sir, 11. April 1881. –

I duly received your long letter of 29. of March, and since then, on the 6th April, a Postal Card. –

Mess.rs John Broadfoot, and George White, fish every year under a license from the department of M, and fisheries, Ottawa; – pike gill nets in Whitby Harbour, but they cannot prevent you nor any one else from angling in those waters. – And they must not have any fill Nets set there, any more, between 6. o'clk on Saturday evening, and 6. o'clock on Monday morning in each week. – I know all about the Salmon, and every other kind of fish, &c, &c, &c, those two persons did not get a license for to fish and catch pike, because Salmon were in that small creek, to which you refer, or because there were no Salmon in the small creek. – They applied for a license many years ago, and they have continued to get the license every year since, and they always pay for it; so that, as I suppose they can catch pike and sell them, for their own benefit, and that of the public, who may choose to buy them! – I dont know, if I am at liberty to give you all particulars, or any more particulars on what conditions licenses are issued yearly to John Broadfoot, and Jas: White, residents of Whitby, beyond what I state to you as above; to your own good sense and Judgement, I submit this matter. –

I will prosecute at any time if a Constable finds those gill nets set in the Harbour at Whitby on a Sunday, and he serjes them, appreses me he has done so, and has the nets and fish, in his possession, keeping them for me; as it is only a few days ago, I received a public notice, from the Commissioner of fisheries, dated, Ottawa, 4th April 1881, – which reads! –

"Nets must be raised from Saturday night, 6. o'clock, until 6. o'clock, Monday morning, of each week". –

As a matter of right, I sent a copy of this Notice to to those two men, in order, that they may observe the law. – And if that, they transgress, and you complain, having good grounds for doing so, I will

prosecute, convict, and confiscate nets, &c. &c. --

As regards what you propose to do, I will not say anything about the matter at present; but instead of issuing licenses to Messrs. White and Groundfoot, for the entire year, I might be able to have their license terminate each year, on 30th. of April, if that would suit your purpose, and the people of Whitby approved of the same, and you got up and had them sign a petition to The Hon: The Minister of Fisheries Ottawa, to this effect. --

I would recommend it to be granted; If after you got it largely signed, you send it to me. But I wont recommend White and Groundfoot to be stopped altogether. ---

I have read your your postscript; I am glad to learn Jock, is thinning out the pike, so, is pretty fair, for one day, in a small place, like Whitby Harbour. --

You will be pleased to pardon me, for not answering your letter sooner, I have been very sick. most of the time in bed, not able to turn in it, nor able to eat, my principle diet being powders, and the contents of Medicine bottles!

Thank God!!!, I am now recovering again, and I expect will be soon able to fly round again. --- In 2 weeks, I was reduced 17, pounds in my weight and size.

Believe me Yours respectfully. --

J. W. Kerr
P. O.

Mr R. H. Dee.
Court House,
Box 101. Whitby.

private!. —

My dear Woolcard. —

I am very unfortunate whenever I make a special trip to Leslieville for to see you, that you are always away. —

If you like to do it, you may contradict the enclosed statement, which I send you back for that purpose. — It is out of my line of business. — Your license fee, for this year, will be 20. altogether.

I have not yet received your S. F. — and W. fish gill net license; altho' I applied for it. — I will refer to the application, next time, I apply. — I saw Lang, at Leslieville, on my return from your place, gave him New licenses which Cancels the old, and told him to lift his Nets before 6. p.m, on yesterday, and not to put them back there again, as by the license I gave him just then, he could not do so. — I also gave him a Copy of the public Notice, 2 Copies of which I left you. —

Altho', I wrote Lang, Hetherington, and Marsh, for to meet me at McCulleys, Hotel, Market Square, Toronto, at 1.30, p.m, not one of them appeared there. —

I left Mrs Marshes, there for her, also a license for Hetherington and a Copy each of the Notices. —

Mrs Marsh, appears to be Nosey and ill humour well I cant help that, they, and you must give up all gill net fishing on 30. april, in Ashbridges Bay. —

Next Sunday, if I am alive and well, I will be in Ashbridges Bay, as I expect enough of the Ice will be melted, to enable me to go over it in a boat. —

I will leave Hamilton, by 5. p.m. Train, and will reach Toronto, by 6.45 p.m. Train, so be sure and meet me at G. Trunk station where Billy Ward and you met me before, so that we can lay out plans. — Now dont disappoint me, Keep a strict look out, and tele no one your business or what amount of license you are to pay, it is no one's business but your own. —

Yours truly J. Wilson J.O.

My dear Sir. Private! —

Please send me your licence fee at once, $4. —

You have been complained against, for having 200, pike in your possession in Whitby, on Saturday 26th of March last past. —

Let me hear from you on receipt. I send you a public Notice, issued by the Commissioner of Fisheries, dated Ottawa, 4. april 1881, and I beg of you and Geo. White, to please live strictly up to its Contents. — —

Please see George immediately, and read it for him. —

Yours truly,
J W Kerr J.P.

Mr John Broadfoot,
Blacksmith,
Whitby P.O.

11. April 1881.

P.S. Also let me have the Qty; of yards of pike gill nets, you are fishing, and tell George to do the same, and to send his money at once. —

Yrs J W Kerr
J.P.

11. April 1881.

Monday. 11. April 1881. —

At Port Dover. — by Order from Mr W. F. Whitcher, Commissioner of Fisheries, to see the Pound Net fishermen there, saw Mr John S. Allan — who gave me important information, about fishermen, and fishing in general. — Saw David Moore, Joe Townsend, whom Innis, appears to have treated shabbily. — Frank Jackson, and Councillor Alderson, went out at 10. a. m. Came in at 4.30. p. m, Miles 48, My fare off 1.20 cf, Tea, dinner and bed off 1.00. — — —

Sir,

14, april 188

I have the honor to apply to you, for a license for Mr Geo. White of Whitby, For to fish same as last year the license fee to $5. -- Also a license for Mr John Grandison of Whitby for to fish, the license to be the same as last year, and the fee to be $3, dollars. —

I recommend the same for your consideration. - And will you be pleased to date those licenses, 1st, March 1881. --

And with due respect,

Honble

The Minister,

&, &, &,

I Have, &c,

John Kerr

F.O.

Sir,

14, april 1881,

I have the Honor to apply to you, for a Boat license, for James Dean, of Riverside, Toronto; For to fish 200, yards of pike gill nets in Ashbridges Bay, except in that portion held under license by Mr W. B. Woolland of Leslieville, bay up to, and ending 30 day of April, at the license fee of $2, dollars. —

I recommend the same to be granted and please insert in this license all the Covenants, &, &, Sunday clause,

And with due respect,

The Honble

The Minister

&, &, &

I Have &c,

John Kerr

Fishery Overseer

Sir,

14. April 1881,

I Have the honor, to apply to you, for the usual license, for Mr. St. L. Bastien, of the City of Hamilton, To Burlington Bay, on Burlington Beach, during the current year, at the rate of $5, for this year. —

Also a similar license, for Mr William Massie of the City of Hamilton. — To be the same as last year, and the license fee, to be $5, for this year. —

I recommend the same for your Consideration. —

And with due respect,

Honble

The Minister,

F. F. F.

I Have &c,

John W Kerr

F. O.

Sir,

14. April 1881,

I have the Honor, to apply to you for a Seine hauling license, for Mrs Lucy Jackson, of Turkey point for to fish a Seine 450. yards long, on fishing station No: 2, in the Outer Bay, of Lake Erie, on Turkey point during the current year, at the rate of $10, per year. —

Also a Seine hauling license, for to fish a Seine, 450 yards long, on fishing station No: 5, in the Inner bay of Turkey point, in Lake Erie, in the township of Charlotteville, and County of Norfolk, for this current year, at the rate of $5, for this year. —

And with due respect, I recommend the same.

Hon:,

The Minister,

I Have, F.,

John W Kerr

F. O.

Sir,

14. april 1881

I have the Honor, to apply to you for a Seine hauling license for Mr Wm Helmer, of Turkey point, fisherman — "For to fish a Seine about 500 yards long, on fishing station No: 3, in the Outer Bay, of Lake Erie, at Turkey point, in the township of Charlottenville, and County of Norfolk" — for this current year, at the rate of $10, for this year. —

Also a Seine hauling license for to fish a Seine 500, yards long, in the Inner Bay, the same as last year, at the rate of $5, per year, And with due respect, I recommend the same. —

I Have, &c.

John W Kerr

J. P.

Hon: Minister
F. F. F.

Sir,

14. april 1881,

I Have the honor to apply to you for a Seine hauling license for Mr Wm Snook, of Turkey point, fisherman; "For to fish a Seine 500 yards long, on fishing Station No: 4, in the Outer Bay, of Lake Erie at Turkey point, in the township of Charlottenville, and County of Norfolk, for the current year, at the rate of $10, for this year. —

Also a Seine hauling license for to fish a Seine about 500 yards long, on fishing Stations Nos: 6, and 7, in the Inner Bay, same as last year, at the rate of $5, for this current year. —

And with due respect, I recommend the same. —

I Have, &c,

John W Kerr

J. P.

Hon: Minister
F. F. F,

Sir,

14. April 1881,

I have the honor to apply to you, for a Seine hauling licence, for Mr David Jackson, of Normandale; "For to fish a Seine about 450 yards long, in Lake Erie, between Normandale pier, and the East boundary of Mrs Alpha Ferris, fishing ground, which is in the township of Charlotteville, and County of Norfolk"; during this current year, at the rate of ten dollars, for this year. —

Mr Jackson, cleans up this ground, I therefore beg most respectfully to recommend that you will be pleased to grant this license,

And with due respect,

Hon: Minister

I Have &c,

Joshua Ker,

J. P.

Sir,

14, April 1881,

I have the honor to apply to you, for a Seine hauling licence for Mr James Low, of Port Dover, for to fish a Seine 200 yards long, in Lake Erie, on the west side of the Harbour, there, during this current year; at the rate of $5, for this year. —

The place is within the limits of the Village, of Port Dover, which is in the township of Woodhouse, and County of Norfolk. —

I recommend that the same may be granted, and with due respect,

Hon Minister,

I Have &c

Joshua Ker

J. P.

Sir,

14. April 1881,

I have the honor, to apply to you, for a Seine hauling license for Mr August Shomacker, of Turkey point, fisherman; For to fish a Seine 350 yards long, in the Tenac Bay, at Goose roost, which is in the township of Charlottville and County of Norfolk, during this current year, at the rate of $5, for this year. —

I recommend the same for your Consideration. — and beg most respectfully to inform you, that Shomacker, told me, he has already paid Mr Bingham $5, on acct of this license. — And with due respect,

I have, &c,

John W Kerr

J.P.

Hon: Minister
F. F. F.

Tuesday, 12. April 1881. —

Off to Turkey point, saw all the licensed fishermen there; vizt Wm Snook, William Stelmer, Thos Lucy Jackson, Charles Ferris, — August Shomacker, and David Jackson by proxie, got from each, a description of their Seine hauling grounds, — for which they required licenses for this current year. — Also, on my return from Turkey point, had interviews, with David Moore, Doctor James W. Stuart, about the ground held by Joseph Townsend, from W. P. Innis Esqre Merchant of Simcoe, last year; as well as a ground Mr Innis, did not license last year, and which as a matter of law, was forfeited to the department, gave D. Moore and Dr Stuart, a chance to offer $50. for each ground, but they declined to advance! — Frank Jackson, offered to pay $50. for each ground, and has already paid $100, 1st January last, for grounds opposite Charlottville, and is prepared to pay $100. for ground opposite Woodhouse! — I told F. Jackson, I would recommend him to the Department for the grounds, and I,

Sir,

14. April 1881,

In obedience to your order, I have to report, that, I have taken charge of the Bingham's district,

and now beg most respectfully to apply to you, for a Seine hauling license: For to fish a 500 yard Seine on fishing station No: 1, in Outer Bay, Lake Erie, at D. point, in the township of Charlotteville, and County of Norfolk; This license you will be pleased to make out in the name of Mr Alpha Ferris, of D. point, at the rate of ten dollars, for this current year. –

In connection with the disputed ranges, situated in the Outer Bay, of Lake Erie, at, D. point, as fully reported upon by me, see my report of 9 June 1880, to The Hon: The Minister and the department and which Mr B – was subsequently instructed by you to arrange, and which he never did. – Will you be pleased to empower me now, to fix those ranges, with the assistance of the Fishermen themselves, when I come up there again to deliver to them their licenses. —

2. Charles Ferris, Turkey point, a Seine hauling license, for to fish a Seine 400 yards long, on fishing station No: 9, in the Inner Bay, of Lake Erie, at D. point, in the township of Charlotteville, and County of Norfolk, the license fee to be for this year $5, and with due respect,

I have &c

Jos. McLean

F. S.

Hon: Commissioner,

&, &, &,

advised him to see Mr William Wallace, M.P. on the subject; I also held a consultation with James Riddell Esqre. J.P. on the subject, who promised to see Mr Wallace. for Frank Jackson. —

Doctor Stuart was very pressing for his claims in behalf of David Moore, who bought out the freezer, and two old Nets (pounds Fr.) I ultimately said to get rid of him, he might write to Mr Whitcher, the Commissioner, he even said if Mr Innis should write, I replied I was not aware if Mr Innis, Knew Mr Whitcher; — Mr Innis, I said has not occupied one of the grounds since the year 1879. — and when he gave up fishing last year, he ceased to have Control over the other ground; of course I said I will put in your application mentioning all you have said to me on the subject; I will Keep back nothing. —

David Moore, used threats. The Doctor, even came up to my bed Room, to talk with me. — —

Then I saw Jim Riddell, who cautioned me not to recommend Stuart, as he was such an enemy of Mr Wm Wallace, M.P. — I also recommended Jim Riddell to get Mr Wallace to recommend Frank Jackson for the grounds, went off to Turkey point at 7. a.m. came back at 5.30. p.m. Miles 36, 54, & Ferry, 3.25 cts. Breakfast, dinner, tea and bed $1.00 cts Tolls, 10 cts. — Saw Dick Gilbert, at Port Dover. —

Wednesday, 13. April 1881. —

At Port Dover, and Hamilton, Mrs Jara $1.70 cts, breakfast 25 cts. — Miles 41. —

See my reports, dated 14 April 1881. — applicating for Seine hauling licences. — —

Private.

My dear Frank. —

On receipt, please send me, at once, the other $100, dollars. — I may tell you, as I have already done, that I intend to re=commend you in the most favourable manner, for those grounds vacated by Mr W. P. Innis, of Simcoe. —

The One opposite Charlotteville township was abandoned 31st of December 1879, — The other ceased to be Mr Innis' 31st December 1880, — and if he intended to do a kindly act, he should have given every thing over to Mr Joseph Townsend. —

See Mr W. M. Alderson, immediately, and send money, by return Mail, post office order, if Con=venient don't fail. —

Let me know what Mr James Reddell has done for you.

Except Mr Alderson don't open your mind to any one until after you get your License, which nothing will be left undone on my part for to obtain for you, in a fair and upright way. —

I now caution you again to keep your mind to yourself, and believe me, Your friend.

John W Lee

P. O.,

Hamilton, Ont.

14. April 1881.

Frank Jackson,
Fisherman,
Port Maria.

Be sure your Money, is with me, by Saturdays morning Just Train, at latest,

J W Lee

P. O.,

private!.

My dear Hull,

I am just in receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, telling me what you are determined to do!. Now, Hull my dear fellow dont you think it is much for you to do something just, and tell it afterwards. —

I may as well tell you, that I heard of holes being open, and of Kent being caught all thro' last Winter, but the places were in Hughson's division. —

As I told you, I would! I recommended you for $15, during the quarter ending 31st of December last, but I was not able to have it granted for you! I put it in again, in my last quarters incidentals, and I am glad to say, it was granted, and I received the money on yesterday, and I now send you a post office Order, for the amount. — But I may as well tele you, I will never attempt such a task again!. You must endeavour by all laudable means to carry out the law in every particular, and in doing this obtain your expenses, as costs in every Case. —

Will you be pleased to obtain for me, a couple of Bags of good seed Barley, and send it to me as freight, by Railway, and I will send you the amount it costs, &, &,.

Please give my Kind regards to Mrs Hull, and with my Warm regards to yourself individually,

Believe me, Yours Fraternally,

Hamilton, Ontario

John W Kerr,

P.O.

15. April 1881.

P.S. Will send notice and a fish, det. in a few days,

J. W. Kerr. P.O.

My dear Sir,

Your application for a fishing license, was duly received. — I applied for, and obtained a license from the fisheries department, Ottawa, for you. —

Please send me, $5, five dollars, on receipt of this letter, and I will send you the license at once. —

Yours truly,

Mr John Peterman
Fisherman,
Port Colborne, Ont.

John W Kerr, F.O.,
Hamilton, Ont.
15. April 1881.

P.S. — close season for Bass, is from 15. April, to 15th of May.

J W Kerr, F.O.,

Memorandum, for S. P. Bennett Esqre.

Will you please send me about 3 dozen, printed Public Notices; — "For close season, &c, dated Fishery department, Ottawa, 4. April 1881.

Hamilton, Ont.
16. April 1881.

Respectfully yours,
J W Kerr, F.O.,

postages 50cts, Post office Orders 20cts,
Quill 20cts, Paper & envelopes 25cts,
Telegraph 25cts.

"Friday, 15. April 1881.

On B. lake, myself and F. Kerr. Thence to B. Beach, see my report dated 16. April 1881, —

M & B; $2.50, — F. Kerr, $1.00 — Miles 24,

Sir,

16. april 1881,

I have the honor to send you Bank draft No; 549, for the sum of Fifteen dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows; for this current season, as follows;

1, Mr William Snook, fisherman, Turkey point, For a Spearing licence, within the Waters of Turkey point Marsh, only, for to spear pike only, say up to the 10th day of May next, $1.00.

2, Mr Richard blake, fish pedlar, for do, do, do, do, $1.00,

3, Mr George White Whitby, Licence already applied for. — $5.00,

4, Mr John Groundfoot, Whitby, do do. — 3.00,

5, Mr James Dean, Riverside, Toronto, licence already applied for. — 2.00,

6, Mr P. A. Bates, Barton, fisherman, for pike gill net licence in B. bay, already received, 3.00,

And with due respect, Total, $15.00.

The Honble
The Minister,
&c, &c, &c, —

J. Mann, &c. &c.
John Kerr
J. overseer

19, april 1881,

Gave the W. D. Master $2, for Masonic Cemetry, also gave Geo: Robinson $3, on acct. of Ad. papers. — paid $0.34, telegraph To, The Hon; The Minister, &c, &c, &c, & $2, dollars death calls. — JW Kerr
J. O

Sir,

16. April 1881.

I have the honor, to report for your information, that on yesterday, the 15th instant, about the hour of 10. a.m., I succeeded in capturing 8. pike gill nets, containing about 800. yards, belonging to Messrs John Gage, and Alexander Rollo, fishermen, on B. Beach, which I found set, and fishing in, and all over "Seconds Inlet," and in a Cove, within that portion of B. bay, fronting on lots No: 2, and 3, in the Broken front Concession of the township of Bastard, set apart for the propagation of fish, &c. &c. &c. –

I found Charles Gage, aged 16. years, and a smaller boy his brother fishing, attending to their fathers pike gill nets; and Wm Rollo, a young man, a son of Alex: Rollo, fishing and attending to his fathers pike gill nets. –

I am drying the gill nets today, and a large Basket of pike and speckled Bass, which I also seized, and confiscated, I sent to the "Boys Home", which I hope will meet your approval. –

I believe a fine should be imposed, but not enforced, to be kept as a guarantee for future good behaviour. –

"The gill nets as a matter of law, to be confiscated, Because I may candidly tell you, neither those Boys, nor their parents, are in a position to pay fines." I was on my way from the letter down to Mr Andrew Gage's when Wm Gage, his son, who had been sent for me, and my own son, Fred.k Kerr, met with me. An plan was at once made!, and Fred: and myself were soon after amongst the Boys, before they were made aware, that I was no longer back. – This matter is submitted for your advice, and with due respect. I Have &c,

Hon: Minister,

F. F. F.

John W Kerr

F. C.

Sir, 18. April 1881,

I have the honor to report, that the pound Net fishermen, at, and about Port Dover, in Lake Erie, last fall, during White fish close season, caught White fish, all thro' the close season! —

I quote you a reliable letter now before me! — Thus! —
"And again in reference to Allan, I might say, that when Allan, made the remarks, he did in reference to you, and the fishing business,
"That of all the fishermen, he at least ought to Keep his mouth shut; as he caught and put in the Freezer, more White fish, in close season, than all the rest put together at one time."
"For 9. Barrels came into the Freezer, (in close season,) with a few Blue pickerels on the top, I saw the Barrels, and Frank told me, what was in them". — —

Thus! you will see now for yourself, how Mr Bingham, F.O, neglected his duty, during last fall, in close season,

I would respectfully recommend, if it meet your approval, and the department; that I be instructed to prosecute Mr John S. Allan, and all other offenders, for Contravention of the Fisheries Act; even suppose you permitted the fines to remain in abeyance, after being inflicted; as a guarantee for future good behaviour. — And with due respect,

Hon: Minister, I Have, &c,
&c, &c, &c.

John McKee
F.O.

Monday. 18. April 1881,

On B. bay, put up Notices to mark portions of B. bay set apart for propagation of fish.

Found a pike gill net set in Lottridges Inlet, the property of P. D. Bates, which is a Contravention of the Fishery Act, Bates soon after made his appearance in Harveys Inlet, I showed him the net, he said it was his, and he pleaded hard to get it back, went out 9, a.m. came in at 6. p.m. Miles 26. 14 Y B. 2.50, F. Kerr, and Boat. —

Sir,

18. April 1881. —

I have the honor to apply to you, for a license for Mess.rs St. W. Ainsley, and John S. Allan, of Port Dover, in the township of Woodhouse, and County of Norfolk, — For to fish two pounds, single pots, in Lake Erie, between lots No: 5, and 13, broken front, Concession, township of Woodhouse, both lots inclusive, at the rate of $40, per pound, — for this current year, total $80, dollars. —

This fishing is carried on near Nanticoke, which is about 8 miles, down the Lake, from Port Dover, the expenses of getting the fish to Market, and to the Freezer, at Dover is considerable for Seaming, Stower; this year done well last year, for Allan made according to his own statement $2.000.

Mr Allan, told me, he paid Mr Bingham F. Dover last year. $100, dollars. — Say 2. pounds for full year, 80, dollars. — And one pound for fall fishing $20. dollars, Total $100 dollars. —

Respectfully submitted and recommended for your consideration and approval. —

I have to report, that Allan, told me altho, he paid Bingham $100, dollars, he never received a license. — And with due respect,

Hon: Minister,

H. H. H.

I Have, &c,

John Ward

J. O.

Postages 50 ¢. Foolscap paper 25.

Sir,

18. April 1881.

In obedience to your directions, I have returned Mr John Davidson, of Guelph, a sum of twenty dollars, sent by him, and Mr George Sleeman, Mayor of Guelph, as a licence fee, for Puslinch Lake, in the County of Wellington, not entertained by the department. Will you be pleased to give me Credit for $20, as follows:

		$ c.
1. Michael Quirk. — For spearing licence in B. bay,		1.00.
2. Richard Nicholson. —	"	1.00.
3. John Ferry. —	"	1.00.
4. William Lane. —	"	1.00.
5. Ramsay Miles. —	"	1.00.
6. James Howard. —	"	1.00.
7. Daniel Reid. —	"	1.00.
8. Strain Yakes. —	"	1.00.
9. Robert Hamilton. —	"	1.00.
10. George Miles. —	"	1.00.
11. Jack Lavelle. —	"	1.00.
12. George Brand. —	"	1.00.
13. Robert Bailey. —	"	1.00.
14. William Blake. —	"	1.00.
15. Nicholas Freeley. —	"	1.00.
16. James Quig. —	"	1.00.
17. Lemer Aspress. —	"	1.00.
18. Charles Howard. —	"	1.00.
19. John Bates. —	"	1.00
20. F. N. Conney. —	"	1.00
	I have, &c. Total.	$20.00

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Kerr,

D.O.

The Honble

The Minister,

&c. &c. &c.

Sir,

18. April 1881. —

I have the honor to recommend for your consideration and approval; that the present "close season", for White fish, from 1st to 10th of Nov; in Lake Erie; be altered, and fixed from 19th of November, to 1st of December. — I am, and is fully persuaded it is the fit and proper close close season, for White fish in Lake Erie, from Turkey point, to Pt Erie; please see Section 9. of the fisheries Act. —

And I hope and entreat of you to so arrange it, as it will be a great boon, to those pound net, and Seine hauling fishermen. — A Note on each licence licence to this effect, will be all sufficient. — All pound Nets to be lifted for the season, on the 20th of November, in each year; By Mutual Consent!.

I make this application, at the request of the Pound Net fishermen, with whom I discussed the matter, the other day, at Port Dover. —

We also discussed the close Season from "Saturday night, to Monday Morning in each Week", I have not yet however made up my mind in this latter case. —

Respectfully recommended for your Consideration and adoption. —

I Have, &c,

John Wilkes,

F. Overseer.

The Honble

The Minister of

&c, &c, &c,

Sir,

18. April 1881,

I have the honor to apply to you, in behalf of Mr Frank Jackson, fisherman, and a resident of Port Dover, who is a son of the late deceased John Jackson, for many years a fisherman at Z. point, Lake Erie, who settled there, after the War of 1812, &c, in which he was engaged at the battle of Lundy's Lane, &c,

By reference to my application, dated 1st day of January last, I recommended a license to be granted to Mr Frank Jackson, for to fish two pounds on the fishing ground, comprised within certain limits in Lake Erie; that is to say: In front of lots No: 19, 20. 21, and the west 1/2, of 22, Broken Front, Concession, in the township of Charlotteville, in the County of Norfolk. —

This pound Net fishing ground, being vacant at the time, and for the entire year previous! I sent you Bank draft No: 177, for $100, dated 31st of December 1880, on acct of said license for this current year. —

I have not yet discovered anything to induce me to change my mind now that you have empowered me to "Ascertain -(in Mr Bingham's district, of which you instructed me to take charge)— the names of parties desiring renewals of fishery licenses, and those of New applicants, and report same here for preparation"?

I have therefore much pleasure in recommending that you will be pleased to grant Mr Frank Jackson, a pound Net license, for to fish 2, pounds, Single pots, in Lake Erie, as above, at the rate of $50, per pound; which is an advance in this case of $20, per year, over Mr W. F. Innis's license fees, when he last occupied this ground, during the year 1879.

Now then! in submitting, for your consideration the foregoing, - I have to report that Dr Stuart, "James W. Stuart", a gentleman of good practice, in his profession, at Pt Dover, where he resides, and in the surrounding Country, and Mr David Moore of Port Dover, who is in partnership

already in partnership for three pounds, with Dr Stuart, they fished three pounds last year, for which Mr Moore paid $120, to Mr Bingham, F. Commer, for the department, they think, they have a prior claim, to Frank Jackson, and every body else, because in an under hand way; after Mr Innis's plant, pounds, buildings, and them out pounds, arranged to be given to a Mr Joseph Townsend", — The Doctor and Moore purchased all, &c.

All those pounds Net fishing grounds at and about Port Dover are fully worth $50, per pound, per year, with such Railway facilities, for getting fish to Market. —

Mr David Moore, nor Doctor Stuart, would offer no advance over their present pound net licence of $40, per year, for the vacant Innis fishing grounds. —

I leave the matter now with you to determine, and as I can only recommend one person for the ground, and to prevent a monopoly, I have no hesitation in adhering to Frank Jackson, who has four pounds ready for the grounds. I recommend him for. while the Doctor, and Mr Moore have none! — —

There again! I have also the honor to apply to you, for pound Net licence, for to fish 2, pounds, single pots in Lake Erie, in front of Lots 3, 4, 5, and 6, B.F, in the township of Woodhouse, and County of Norfolk. for Frank Jackson, of Port Dover, — fisherman, at the rate of $50, per pound, say $100, more, which is an increase of $20, over and above the amount paid last year, by Mr Innis, for this same ground, but since relinquished by him, say $80, paid to Mr Bingham. — And I strongly recommend that you will be pleased to grant a licence for this ground to Frank Jackson, . I send you Bank draft No: 5541, for $100, which you will please

apply on this fishing ground, as above. —

I may here again state for your information that Mr Stuart, and Mr David Moore, are also applicants for this ground; I have not been furnished by them with any good and cogent reasons, why! they should get a license in preference to Frank Jackson, who has purchased $700, worth of nets for cash. — The Mr, and Mr Moore say; the want a license a full license, for 3 pounds, on their last years license ground, for this current year, and which will amount to $120. —

And for three pounds, in the fall, next fall, half license; say $60. — Total for Current year, 180. dollars.

While Jackson pays down at once, for 4 pounds, $200, an increase of $20, over $180, the license fee of Mr Stuart, and David Moore, for their proposed six pounds. —

I give you these particulars, all of which is most respectfully submitted, and recommended for your consideration and approval. —

Honble The Minister, &c, &c,

I Shaw, &c, &c,

John Wilson,

J. Nursey.

Wednesday, 20. April 1881,

At Clarksons, saw F. & C. Reid, made enquiries about Burwell Smith, &c. &c. fishing on their Seine hauling ground, near the Slade property, went from thence to Port Credit, paid $6, for watching small speckled Trout stream to James Reid, he reported that on Good Friday, two Stoughton young men from Toronto, attempted to catch some speckled Trout in said Creek, they had a piece of lean beef, and lines and hooks, they cut rods - Young Reid watched them until they went off, he reported they caught no Trout, went out at 5.30. a.m. came in at 6. p.m. miles 6.4. My fare $2. dinner 25¢, S & W^ne 75¢.

My dear Sir, Hamilton, Ontario,

By the enclosed Official (Copy) letter, herewith you will please give how matters are fixed for the present, as regards Bushwich Lake. --

I sent you a quantity of printed Notices, for distribution, did you receive them?. I expect in May, you may be looking out for Salmon Trout, White fish, and Bass, May. —

And after the 15. May, I will send you word, to come down here, and take up some large live bass. -- As instructed, I beg to return your $20.— per, post office, Order. — I have been very sick, for nearly a Month. — But I am now getting all right, and well again. — Believe me Yours.

John Davidson Esqre, Guelph, Ontario

Faternally.
John Dillon,
Fishery Overseer.

18. April 1881.

Hamilton,

To the Hon.ble
J. C. Pope,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa.

19. April 1881.

Rollo, and Teafe, fishermen, on B. Beach, had gill nets seized for Contravention of the Fisheries Act, please restore them. The owner has no objection.

Gilbert,

Sir,

18. April 1881,

I have the honor to apply to you, for a pound Net license for Messrs David Moore, and Wm James W. Stuart, of Port Dover, "For to fish three pounds, single pots, in Lake Erie east and west of the Harbour at Port Dover, the same as last year, and which is in the township of Woodhouse, and County of Norfolk. — The same to be at the rate of $40, per pound, for this current year: say $120, in all, same as last year. — —

I have much pleasure in recommending this application for your consideration and adoption. —

2nd.

I have also to apply to you, at the request of Messrs David Moore, and Wm James W. Stuart, of Port Dover. — For a pound Net license, for to fish three pounds, single pots, next fall, on the grounds recently occupied by Mr Innis of Simcoe, and relinquished by him. —

These grounds they want at half license fee, for this year, say $20, per pound; $60, altogether. —

I cannot recommend this license be granted. Because you will please find Mr Frank Jackson's application, and Money $200, dollars; $140, dollars, more than Wm Stuart, and David Moore, has offered for the grounds; Besides Jackson was the first applicant, and paid a $100, more than these months, before they applied. — And with due respect,

Hon: Minister
of Q. Q. Q.

I Have &c,
John W Kerr
J. P.

Sir,

19. April 1881.

I have the honor to report for your information that on yesterday, the 18th instant, I seized about 100. yards of pike gill nets ("3 pieces in one") the property of Mr G. D. Bates. I found set in the G. D. Bates. I found set in the Thomas Lottridges Inlet of Burlington bay. Bates has a license strictly forbidding him to set gill nets in the Inlets; - I found four pike and a sucker, caught in those nets; and meeting Bates about 4. o'clock. p. m. one hour, after I made the seizure; he made a trifling excuse. - Fishermen are hard pressed at present, in consequence of the long severe Winter. - -

And with due respect,

Hon: Minister,
H. H. H.

I Have &c,
John W Kerr
F. O.

My dear Sir,

Wood and Legatt, sent your ropes to your address at Niagara, the day before yesterday, look out for them.

They got them made for you, and with kind regards, I am getting all right and well again,

Yrs &c,
J W Kerr
F. O.

Mr Jas: Cardwell,
Fisherman,
Niagara,

21, April 1881,

My dear Sir,

Hamilton,

I am just in receipt of your postal Card, stating that you understand Mr Bingham has been discharged, and that you are in charge of the Fisheries in his division. — Also you say; "I have 22, Names, who have applied and got permits to spear thro' the Ice, at one dollar each". — Now I, to collect the amount, or not, or what shall I do, I was Guardian, under Mr Bingham, please answer." "Will there be any change in close season".

Mr J W. Kerr
F. Overseer,
Hamilton, Ont.
3

Yours truly,
Jas: W. McCall,
St Williams, April 17, 1881.

In reply, I have to inform you, that by letter from the Fishery department, Ottawa, 28, March 1881, I am informed; — "The Minister having suspended Overseer Bingham, until such time as his defaults to pay license fees collected during the past season is satisfactorily explained, "You are hereby instructed to take charge of his district". —

With respect to the 22, names of persons, who had permits to spear last Winter, thro' the Ice, at $1. each. — The Money should have been collected long since; please send me the names and money at once. —

I was at L. point, this day week, and I expect shortly to be up there again, when I will endeavour to see you. — The close season is the same as it was last year. —

I may also inform you, that Mr William Leavey, Steward on L. point, has been reappointed F. Guardian for L. point so that so much has been taken from Mr B.'s division. —

I send you copy of Close season Notice, and until ordered to the Contrary see that the Semi hauling fishermen at Turkey pt &c. &c duly observe the Law. —

If they are guilty of any Contravention of the act, please report same to me. Yours Sincerely

Jas W. McCall Esqre
F. G. F. F. F.

J W Kerr F.O. 19. Apr 1881.

Sir.

Hamilton, Ont.,

I am in receipt of a letter, dated Clarksons, April 14, 1881. — "Complaining as usual, about the fishing licence you gave us last year, has been of no use whatever! — Mr Reids, Knew that there was a rock there, that no one could remove, we want a licence this year to fish on our ground, any where we feel entitled to, what we ask for as we feel entitled to, what we ask for, as we paid for licence, before Reids did at all! And you made us no return till last year." please let us Know by return Mail, if you can let us have the licence all across, our own place, and how much they will cost and oblige, Yours. &c, S^d Wm J. Morse ——.

In answer to this letter, I have to reply that as Mr Wm J. Morse is away in Michigan, this letter, I must accept as a forgery! If the licence Mr Morse received last year, from the fisheries dept proved to him, a failure, I am in no way responsible. —

About that rock, what have I to do about rocks in the Lake! —

The fishery department is not aware, neither am I, that Mr Morse has a ground, which is designated as our own ground, and I cannot deprive an old fisherman, of a Seine hauling ground, where he has fished for years, under a licence, paid for annually by him.

If you want a licence for this year, send me $5, and I will apply and obtain a licence for you. — But I cannot and will not take any part of Reids ground from him, without his mutual consent.

Mr Nid, has had his licence for this year, for about 2, months while you have no licence for this year, at all, and she I am told you have fished on two different days during this month and Caught fish. —

In the first place, you cant fish a Seine, without a licence, penalty $ 20. &c,

And in the next place you cannot fish on Reids grounds, after you get a licence, without his Consent, under a penalty of $100, and Costs, and the forfeiture of Seine, boat and Nets. —

So you will now see, the position you occupy. —

I dont want people to be telling me; that you have been telling others, you have got your licence for this year, when you and I, both know to the Contrary. —

Mr Burwell Smith,
Clarkson Bowers,
P. Office,

Yours &c,
J W Kerr
J. P.

21, april 1881,

P.S.

I gave the Mouse, a Copy of the J. Act, and you can read Section 13. of the J. Act,

J W Kerr
J. P.

Sent Notices of Close season, 21. ap: 1881.

Do,	James. J. Wilcox	Port Credit,	1.
"	Richard Allan,	Niagara,	1.
"	John Bolton,	" —	1.
"	James Cantwell,	" —	1.
"	C. & A. Ball	"	1.
"	Owen Bowers	Pt Royal.	6,
"	Jas: W. McCall	St Williams	6.

Postage stamps 10 ¢,

My dear Sir, Hamilton,

I am just in receipt of yours of the 19th instant, asking permission for to catch Bass, &c, during close season, for to stock a pond; — stating that Mr Bingham had told you, you could get the fish, and now referring to me for a like permission. —

In reply to your application, I have simply to tell you, that neither Mr Bingham, nor I, have any power whatever in this matter.

By reference to Sub section 2, of section 15, of the Act, the power alone is invested in the Minister thus: "Nothing contained in this Act, shall preclude "the granting by the Minister of Written permission to "obtain fish, and fish spawn, for purposes of stocking "or artificial breeding or for Scientific purposes." —

I will forward your letter to the Minister, and ask him to give you the privilege. — I have no power to do anything of the Kind. —

Yours, &c,

J W Sears,

J. P.

21. April 1881,

Mr J. E. Deacon,
P.O. Dover,
Ont.

"Friday, 22, April 1881.

On B. Beach, gave back to Alex: Rollo, and John Isaac. pike gill nets seized by me on Good Friday. got a pike from each, gave them away,

Thence to Verona, to see Paddy Hand, found all regular, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 5.30. p. m. Miles 40. H & B. 2.50.

My dear Wilcox,

I am in receipt of your letter, I want you to go up to Spring field, on Saturday evening next, and if Miner, and others who fish there, after 6. o'clock, p. m., or before 6. a. m, on the following Monday morning, take their Names, as well as observe the Number and quantity of fish they Catch, then stop them at once. – I send you Notice for to read to them. —

I have no gill Nets for the Reeds, or any body else. —

Smith knows nothing about me, the Reeds have their license, since the 8th of March last, and he has hauled on this ground, on the 12th and 13th of April instant, and if he does so again, I will fine him $100, and costs, and Confiscate his Seine, &c, and boat, and you may tell him, I said so. – I have written him today to the same purpose. —

Believe me, Yours &c,

Jas: J. Wilcox Esqre
J. P.,
Port Credit

J W Kerr
J. Fisher
Hamilton, 21. Apr: 1881.

Wednesday, 27, April 1881. —

At Andrew Gages Inlet, thence up to Lands Bay, looking and grappling for pike fill nets Fred: Kerr with me went out at 6. p. m. came in at 11. p. m. did not find any
H & B: 1.50. Boat, Miles 16. —

Sir,

21, April 1881,

I have the honor, to submit for your consider=ation, an application I have just received from Mr J. E, Decou of Port Dover, to be allowed permission to procure Bass, &c, for to stock a pond. —

I have written Mr Decou, telling him, I have no power in this matter, and referring him to Sub section 2: of Section 15, of the Fisheries Act. —

I submit this case, and recommend it, for your consideration and adoption. —

And with due respect,

The Honble
The Minister
F. F. F.

I Have &c,
J W Kerr,
F.O.

Sir.

25. April 1881. —

I Have the honor to send you, Bank draft No: 583, for the sum of Ten dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows: for this current spring: 1881. —

1. Messrs John Funsale and Wm Montgomery: "For a Boat License, to fish pike gill nets in Frenchmans Bay, Lake Ontario: already received and delivered. — —

And with due respect,

Hon: Minister,
F. F. F.

I Have, &c,
John W Kerr F.O.

My dear Sir,

Hamilton, Apl 20 77

I am just in receipt of your letter of 20th instant, stating that you have heard that Mr G. L. Bingham, has been dismissed as Fishery Overseer, &c. &c. &c, and asking for information &c, &c, &c,

In reply, I have to inform you, that by letter from the Fisheries department, Ottawa, 28. March 1881. — I am informed, "The Minister having suspended Overseer Bingham, until such "time, as his defaults to pay license fees collected during the "past season is satisfactorily explained, you are hereby in="structed to take charge of his district, &c. &c. &c."

I have not as yet received any Orders, as regards the Guardians, Jas: W. McCall, and yourself. —

I may here tell you, that Mr Wm Leary, has been appointed Fishery Guardian, on Leary point. — —

Until Orders to the Contrary, you continue to discharge your duty as Guardian; I will ask for instructions about your Guardian.

I hear to-day, that Bingham is at Port Dover, and has been there for some days. —

I send you Sev' public Notices, you will please see that the close season is strictly observed. — —

Have you any Money on hand for dip net fishermen, or for spearing licenses, if you have, send it to me, with Names of persons from whom you collected it, and I will send it, to the Fisheries department, Ottawa. —

And with Kind regards, believe me —

Owen Bowes Esqre
F. Guardian,
Pt Royal.

Yours fraternally,
J. W. Kerr
F. Overseer,

P.S.

21. April 1881,

Please report to me, any contraventions that may happen, in your division, and be still active, and very particular in the discharge of your duty. If any fishermen in your division require renewals of licenses, or other licenses, send me their Names, and Money. Mr J. D. Shaw F. Ow

Sir,

25. April 1881.

I have the honor to report for your information, that on yesterday (Sunday) I seized two pieces of Pike gill Nets, I found set in Ashbridges Bay. – 100 yards. —

At present I do not know, who the Owners are. – And with due respect.

Hon: Minister,

I have &c,

John W Kerr

F.O.

Saturday. 23. April 1881.

At Toronto, and Toronto Island, and to the Police Court to see Inspector Stuart and arrange for a man to come with me to Ashbridges Bay, thence to the Island, and back again. – When I saw Mr Stuart, went out at 9. a. m, came in at 8. p. m, Miles, 50, Ry fare 2.00. Boat hire 10, dinner, tea, and bed 75

Sunday. 24. April 1881. —

On Toronto bay, met Detective Sheehan, at John Clendinnings wharf, Billy Ferreany, and Joe Stinson took me out, thence down Ashbridges Bay, met Woolland, in Bay, grappled, found one gill net, near the gap, and another up in a Cove, thence to Funsells, and back to the Island, went out at 6.30, a. m, came in at 2. p. m, Miles 26. Boat $1. Ferreany $1, Joe $1, and Sheehan $2, Breakfast, dinner, tea and bed $1. –

Monday. 25. April 1881. —

At the Island, Toronto and Hamilton, went out at 7. a. m. came in at 1.30. p. m, Miles 46. Breakfast 25, Boat 25, Mr Doyle paid me 10. for Funsell & Coy. —

Sir,

28 [illegible] 18[illegible]

I Have the honor to send you Bank draft No: 595, for the sum of Seventeen dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows, for this current year;

1. Mr Alexander Rollo, For a Boat License to fish fyke gill nets in Burlington Bay, received and delivered, the same to terminate on the 8th day of May next, $3.00

2. Mr John Laaffe, do. do, do, " 3.00.

3. Mr Thomas Lowes, do, do, do, " 3.00.

4. Mr William Massie, Hamilton, For a license of a fishing ground, on B. Beach, in B. bay, received and delivered. 5.00

5. Darius Beam, of Walsingham, For a dip Net License to fish in Port Royal Ship Canal, which is situate in the township of Walsingham, Lake Erie, the said License to expire on the day of 1881, 1.00

6. Samuel Michel, do. do, do, 1.00.

7. James Abbott, do. do, do, 1.00

Total $17.00

Will you please send me licenses for, 5. 6. and 7. —

And with due respect,

Hon. Mr. Ross, Ottawa, Ont.

The Minister

of F. & F.

John H. Kerr

N. A.

Express charge

$ 20.

My dear Sir,

I am informed that you propose fishing two pounds this season in Lake Erie, in front of lots No: 21, and 22, in the township of Walpole, and County of Haldimand. Near Sandusky Creek",

Will you be pleased to let me know, as soon as possible, in whose name you wish me to apply for, and get out the license from the Fisheries dept Ottawa. —

And with due respect,

W. P. Innis Esqre
Merchant
Simcoe, Ont.

Yours respectfully,
John W Kerr — J. P.,
Hamilton, 30. april 1881,

My dear Sirs,

I desire to enquire, and be informed by you, if it is you, or Mr Innis of Simcoe, who intend fishing two pounds in Lake Erie, this season, in front of of lots Nos: 21, and 22, in the township of Walpole, and County of Haldimand. — please answer at once and oblige,

Yours respectfully,
John W Kerr
J. P.
30. april 1881. —

To, Messrs David Moore,
and Jas: W. Stewart,
Pound Net — Proprietors,
Port Dover, Ont.

Thursday, 28. april 1881,

At Pt. Dover, and Turkey point, to see Snark, and ascertain how close season is being kept, went out at 3. p. m. came in at 10. p. m. Miles 56. 54. and Buggy, and Railway, Board, &c. $4.10cf. —

private!

My dear Frank,

On my arrival home, I found found Net licenses for Messrs David Moore, and James W. Stewart, for the following grounds, in Lake Erie, in front of lots 19, 20, 21, and west 1/2 of 22, in the township of Charlotteville.

and

Lots. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16, in the township of Woodhouse. — Together with a letter of instructions, in which the following occurs; "As you have already accepted from Frank Jackson, and paid into this department, a sum of $200, on account of license, you will try and do your best to provide him with some good stand."

Can you get a place in front of lots Nos 1, and 2, Woodhouse, or below lot 16, in the township of Woodhouse,

please examine at once, and let me know, and I will again try and recommend you. —

Nos. 1, and 2, must be some place near Pt Rysse and should be a good place. —

Mr Frank Jackson
Fisherman.
Port Dover.

Yours &c,
John W Kerr J.P.,
30. april 1881

If you find a good place on 1, or 2, please let me know the distance from the place to where I may find nets, pounds from it.

J W Kerr J.P.

Friday, 29. April 1881. —

At T. point, gave out licenses, and collected $59. - Sent for Mr McCaale, and talked over fishing matters, gave him orders, &c. Thence to Port Dover and home. — Miles 53. Ny. H & B. a — Board $4.10 — See my report of 30th of April herewith. — — —

Sir.

30. April 1881.

I have the honor to send you Bank draft No: 603, for the sum of Sixty dollars. — — —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows; for this current season; as license fees! —

1. Mrs Aepha Ferris, Turkey point; For Seine hauling license for to fish on Station, No: 1. Outer Bay, in Lake Erie, at Turkey point, township of Charlotteville, — —		$ 10.00.
2. Lucy Jackson, do, do, on Station, No: 2, do.		10.00,
3. William Stelmer, do, do. do, " 3, do,		10.00,
4. William Snook, do. do, do, " 4, do,		10.00.
5. David Jackson, Normandale, do, do, do on a/c.		4.00,
6. Charles Ferris, T. point, For Seine hauling ground license, in the Inner Bay, for 1881, L. Erie. —		5.00.
7. Lucy Jackson do. do, do. —		5.00,
8. William Stelmer, do. do, do. —		5.00
9. Solomon Becker, Walsingham, For a spearing license to fish in the Waters of Big Marsh, and spear pike, up to the 14th of April 1881, from 1st of January last, township of Walsingham, L. Erie,		1.00,
	Total,	$ 60.00

Except No: 9, I have already received all the licenses, and delivered them. —

The Hon.ble
The Minister,
V. V. Fc.

I have, &c.,
John W. Kerr,
Fishery Overseer.

Sir,

30, april 1881. —

I have the honor to again report for your immediate information, that it is become absolutely necessary, for to have all the ranges between the Seine hauling grounds in the Outer Bay, in Lake Erie, at Turkey point, township of Charlotteville, re-established and laid off, according to the Walshes plan. —

Whilst two or three of the Seine hauling fishermen are doing well, and making money; poor William Snook, fisherman, from the position of his ground, is not doing so well; and he complains bitterly!.

Snook, and the Jacksons will pay the Walshes, for staking off the grounds again; and for placing floating anchored buoys, outside in the Bay. —

Your Order to Bingham last Summer, given as a renewal to me, will be all sufficient. — —

Because Ferris, and Scholer, I am informed, will resist everything that does not come as authentic authority from the Fisheries department, Ottawa. —

I will attend and see your Orders carried out, at the expense of those Concerned. — —

I recommend this matter for your Consideration and adoption. — And with due respect,

The Honble
The Minister,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c,
John W Kerr
F. O.

Sir,

30. April 1881,

With reference to a Seine hauling licence, which I received from the department for August Shomacker, of Turkey point, for to fish in the Inner Bay at Goose Neast, for this current season. — "Charlotteville" —

I beg most respectfully to report, that Mr Shomacker, paid Mr C. L. Bingham, on 25 of January last, the sum of Five dollars, as per receipt herewith, to apply on licence for year 1881.

Respectfully submitted, and with due respect;

Hon Mr Minister, I Have &c.

Hon. Minister, John W. Kerr

&, &, &c, P.O.

Sir,

30. April 1881,

I have the honor to apply to you for a Seine hauling licence, for Mr William Helmer, of Turkey point. For to fish on Station No: 7, which is situated in the Outer Bay of Lake Erie, at Turkey point, in the township of Charlotteville, and which I recommend may be granted for this current season, at the rate of five dollars. — "Please insert sunday clause in licence." —

Helmer informed me, that he applied for this licensed fishing ground, last January, thro Mr Bingham.

And with due respect.

Hon: Minister, I Have &c.

&, &, &, John W. Kerr

P.O.

Gentlemen, 30. april 1881.

I am informed that you are going to fish two pound-nets in Lake Erie, this Season near Clarence point.

Will you be pleased to write me as soon as possible giving me the limits by lots within which you propose for to fish. — I may here state for your information, that I have been appointed to take charge of the Burghams division in Lake Erie, so you will now learn I am the authorized officer, for you to apply to, for a license. —

Mess.rs
Darius Swarthy
and
Solomon Moore,
Selkirk, P.O. office.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant
John W. Kerr
Fishery Overseer,

P.S. — I am your old fishery Overseer. I know you and you know me. J.W. Kerr, F.O.

30 april 1881, Wrote a long letter to Alex. A. Bassett this day. J. W. Kerr, F.O.

1/. Saturday, 7. May 1881. —

At Toronto, to see Woollard and Gray, found the report about seizing pike gill Nets in Ashbridges Bay, was unfounded, went out at 6. a. m. came in at 5. p. m, Miles 86. My fare $2, S4 & B, 1.50, dinner 25¢. —

1/. Sunday, 8. May 1881.

On the Lake, seized some Nets, they being pike gill nets set for White fish, went to Wenona got B, and Tom Stand and Fred Kerr, to go out with me, S4 & B, and Boat 2.00. Boat $1, went out at 8. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. Miles 40. —

The Nets were one piece New, the other pike gill nets. — — —

Sir,

2. May 1881.

I am in receipt of your letter of 27th ultimo applying for a spearing license, for Solomon Baker, for to spear pike in the waters and Creeks of Port Royal Marsh lands. – Do you mean Big Marsh?. for if so, I cannot recommend the department to grant a spearing license for a place frequented by Bass, and pickerel. – Remember this is close season for Bass and pickerel and it is about time when 15. April arrives, to give up spearing with light Jacks, altogether in a place frequented by fish, for the purposes of spawning. –

I sent forward the Name, however!, and the dollar on Saturday with $5, more, I collected at Turkey point (license fees) on Friday last, – And imagining as I did, that this license might be from 1st of January, to the 14. of April, I applied for the license accordingly. – –

No spearing licenses, can be issued any more after the 14th of April, we must do nothing which might lead or induce innocent, or designing people to break the fishery law, by spearing a bass, or a pickerel thinking at the time it was only a pike; we must not lead men into temptation, it would never do, to use the words of a friend, you and I, must be very careful in our dealings amongst the fishermen, by not getting ourselves into New troubles, thereby adding to those which Mr B – has prepared for us!. I speak my mind to you in all sincerity, so you must not be offended at me for doing so. – –

If Becker, wants back his dollar, when you inform him, he cannot spear, I will send him a dollar, on your writing to me to this effect. –

And please inform every applicant, there will be no more spearing before next winter. –

Until Crockett pays $5, license fee, he cannot fish his Seine, and any other gill net, or Seine fisherman, before he commences to fish, must pay in future. –

That man who paid Mr Bingham, cannot fish his gill net, and catch bass and pickerel during close season. —

Please make a special report to me of all persons wanting licences for to fish Hooks, lines, and gill nets, and dip nets. —

We must be particular and turn over clean leaves, it will never do, to follow in the footsteps of Mr Bingham. — now mind that, once for all! — I have seen no blue books, for this year yet!. Just bear on patiently, a little while, until I get the poor Net fishermen into fair shape, then I will be at leisure to come up, and see you, and talk things over. —

As regards those old Contraventions of the Act, committed during Mr Bingham's incumbency, pass it by, I dont want to go back and clean up his dirt!. But you be very particular in future, that no man breaks the law with impunity!. Every offence committed in Contravention of the fisheries Acts, report to me immediately, and I will instruct you what to do, Keep your own counsel. — And believe me,

Asa Bearss Esqr
H. Guardian,
Port Royal.

Yours very truly,
John Wilson, H. O.

My dear Sir, Yours received, please send me the same amount you always paid me heretofore and I will apply to the F. department, at Ottawa, and obtain for you a licence. —

And with Kind regards,

Asa Bearss Esqr
Sherkston,
Welland Coy,
Onto

Yours Sincerely
John Wilson H. O.
21st May 1881

Sir,

Yours of 28, ultimo received, enclosing a dollar from Samuel Frick, for a spearing license to fish in the waters of Big Creek, and the waters of Port Royal Marsh, for pike. —

For the reasons set forth in another letter, I send you, I decline to receive this $1, dollar, and now return it, to be given back by you at once to Sam: Frick. —

You will please go immediately to Albert Trickett, and Edward Chambers, and obtain from them, the permits, "Foolscap Scrip", Bingham gave them, and I will apply and get them dip net licenses. — In the mean time if you are satisfied, they in good faith paid their money, allow them to fish. — B. and P.

to be called for! — Also go to Mr Hugh Mabee, and get from him the receipt for this $5, and ask him also, for the number of yards of gill nets he fishes, send to me, and I will recommend licenses to be granted forthwith. —

I dare not ask or enquire from the dept, if they received this $4, you have refer to. — And I cannot hurry up licenses I apply for, to the dept at Ottawa. —

But where you send money for dip net fishing to me, you may allow the persons to fish, pending the receipt of the licenses.

And with my esteem and regard,

Owen Bowers Esqre
J. P. Brandon
Port Royal.

Yours Sincerely
John Ker. J.P.
2. gthly 1881.

paper 45¢ Postage stamps 25¢

My dear Frank. — Hamilton, 2. May 1881.

I am in receipt of your letter. — Moore and Stewarts licenses, now at present in my possession include No: 16. in Woodhouse. — I cannot therefore recommend No: 16. — to be taken from them, and given to you, as after the efforts I have made for you already I dont think I would have any chance of success. — —

But I am almost certain you can have 17, 18, 19. 20, 21. 22, 23, and 24, township of Woodhouse. — —

Lots, Nos 1, and 2, township of Woodhouse, are not included in Moore and Stewart's license, thence why it was, under all the circumstances of the case, I drew your attention to those lots. —

No person shall ever get the place from you you at Port Colborne. — Please let me know how you got on, up the Country. —

Let me hear from you at once, if you can drive stakes on any of the lots herein named, and I will at once recommend you for a license on reasonable terms, and I will come up, as I want to talk to you on other matters. —

Yours truly,

John W Kerr

To Frank Jackson,
Fisherman,
Port Dover,

P. O. 2. May 1881.

Monday. 9. May 1881. —

Attended at the Police Court, thence to G. Ry. to meet young Wilmot. went out at 8. a.m, came in at 6. p.m, deposited 20,000. L. Trout fry in B. bay, gave Mat; Thompson $1, for Boats, and assistants, put the fry in front of Dundurn, dinner 25¢, Other expenses 50¢, — Several persons fined for Catching Bass, Miles 10, $4 & B: 1.50, 3.25

My dear Sir, 2. May 1881.

I am in receipt of your application of 30th of April, for a Seine hauling ground in Lake Ontario at Frenchman's bay, West of the pier. —

I am aware that there is a Joint Stock Company interested in this Seine. — The license fee, will therefore $10, for the season. —

Now with regard to your application, to fish White fish gill Nets; — This license will be only $5, dollars, on receipt of Money, I will apply and get you a Seine license, and a Boat license, as both must be Kept separate. — I send you a printed Notice, by which you will learn, that no Seine or Net fishing can be carried on, by any person without a license,

Mr George Marks, Yours truly,
Frenchmans Bay, John W. Kerr F.O.,
Dumbarton P. office.

P.S. — Send me length of Seine, and No: of yards of White fish gill Nets,
to J. W. Kerr
F.O.,

My dear Sir,

Yours received, will you be pleased to send me $5, dollars, and I will at once apply and get you up a Boat license, for to fish just in the place applied for. —

Please send me the amount in yards of White fish gill nets, and the number of Herring gill nets, you intend fishing. — Yours Sincerely,

Abm H. Kreble Esqre John W. Kerr F.O.,
Beamsville,
Ontario, 16. May 1881,

My dear Mansfield, 2. May 1881,

I received your letter in due time, and today I received a letter from George Marks, applying for a Seine hauling license, and gill net license. —

I replied as his Seine is a Joint stock Concern, license is $10, to fish west of the Harbour. — And his Boat license will be $5, for the season. — I suppose your licenses will have to be the same, Combined with S. Wright. —

I cant come down for some time, so please send your Money, and I will apply and get up your licenses at once for you. —

Whenever I come down, I will let you know before hand, Believe me, Yours Sincerely,

Mr T. Mansfield
III
T. Mans Bay
Dumbarton P. office.

John W Kerr J.P.

P.S. — If you have any News, please write me, J. W. Kerr J.P.

Sent two close Season Notices,

2. May 1881,

To. Thomas Mansfield, } Fishermen
" George Marks. — } Frenchmans' Bay,
Dumbarton P. office

My dear Sir,

Will you please find your License herewith, and a printed Notice — for the information of persons who fish Seine Nets, but have no licenses. —

Yours Sincerely
John W Kerr J.P.
Hamilton, Ont.
16. May 1881,

Asa Pearss Esq
Sherkston. P.O.,
Welland County.

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter, wishing to know if you can keep on fishing. —

In reply, I say decidedly not! as all net fishing ended ~~on~~ Saturday last, in Ashridges Bay, and I cannot make any exception in your case. —

I was not aware that you had been fishing! — So stop instantly! —

Yours truly. —

John W. Stern
F. O.,
2. May 1881,

Mr Wm B. Hayes
Fisherman,
Toronto, P. Office,

My dear Chester

Will you be so good, as to send me, $20, the balance of your license money, —

I will send your license ~~on to~~ and with kind regards,

Yours truly
John W. Stern, F. O.,
3. May 1881,

Mr Chester A. Harris
or Mr John Harris,
Fort Erie.

My dear Sir,

Will you please find herewith licenses for Messrs John Company, Frank La Fontaine, and W. C. Bantam Jr, and W. G. Bantam Sr of Walsingham, which you will deliver to the respective licensees, and oblige

Yours truly
John W. Stern, F. O.,
Hamilton, Ont.
16. May 1881,

William Pearse Esqre
J. Guardians,
Port Royal.

Sir,

3, May 1881.

I have the honor to apply to you, in behalf of Mr Frank Jackson, of Port Dover; — For a license to fish two pound nets only, with a single pot or head each, in Lake Erie, in front of Lots Nos. 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24, Broken front, in the township of Woodhouse, and County of Norfolk. — Those grounds are not at present occupied by any person. —

I have much pleasure in recommending the same for your consideration and adoption. — —

And that you will be pleased to permit him him to go out at least 180 Rods in Lake Erie. —

The license fee is not to exceed $40, for each pound, per year. — If a success!.

As Jackson has his Ice, and Ice House, at Port Dover, it would never do, for him to move away this season from there. — But next year, please God, if I am alive and well, I hope to be able to provide him with better grounds, near a good Market, some where near Port Colborne, provided the same will meet your approval. —

And with due respect,

The Honble
The Minister,
&c. &c. &c.

I Have, &c.
John Wilson,
J.P.

Stationery, paper and Ink 48¢

Sir,

3. May 1881. —

I have the honor to apply to you, in behalf of Mr. Frank Jackson, of Port Dover, "For a pound Net license to fish two pound Nets only, with a single pot, or head each, in Lake Erie, in front of Lots Nos. 1. and 2, Broken front, in the township of Woodhouse, and County of Norfolk. —

I have much pleasure in recommending the same for your consideration and adoption, and that you will be pleased to permit him to go out at least 180. Rods into Lake Erie. —

This ground was occupied by a man named Wood a few years ago, but he did not succeed on it very well, however! Jackson is willing to try it, the license is not to exceed $40, dollars per pound. "I hope he will succeed". —

I may here report for your information, that this place, where Jackson intends to set, is about 1½ miles, from Moore and Stewarts, Innes grounds, where their pound Nets have been set; so that I suppose no fears may be now apprehended from that Quarter. — You will also please find, that Lots Nos. 1, and 2, as above referred to, is not included this year, in any other man's license. —

And with due respect,

Hon.ble The,
Minister,
F. F. F.

I Have, &c,
John W. Sass
J.P.

Sir,

3. May 1881.

I have the honor to report for your information, that Messrs. Moore and Stewart, of Port dover, have nothing whatever to do, with the pound Net fishery in Lake Erie, in front of lots Nos. 21, and 22, in the township of Walpole, and County of Haldimand. — —

The license should be made out to Mr W. B. Innis, of Simcoe, and should be for two pound nets at $40, each, $80, — instead of One. —

I return the enclosed license, so that you may cancel it. — And please send me Innis's license instead. —

And with due respect,

Hon'l, The Minister F. F.

I Have, &c,
John W. Kerr,
F.O.

P.S. — I wrote to Innis and Dr Stewart, but did not say the object I had in view. — I enclose Dr Stewart's answer for Mr Bassett's information. Yrs respectfully,
J. W. Kerr, — F.O.

My dear Sir,

17. May 1881.

I have been informed you have had great success catching White fish. — I am really astonished I have never heard from you this year. — Will you be pleased to let me have by return of Mail, $15, dollars, license Money for this current year. — —

That is to say for Lake and gill net fishing &c. do this immediately, and also send me some News; How many salmon have you caught. —

My Kind regards to Mrs Math and family, and believe me, —

Yours Sincerely,
John W. Kerr,
Fishery Overseer.

Mr Peter Math,
Fisherman.
Pt Dalhousie,

Sir,

4. May 1881.

I have the Honor to apply to you for a Boat license, for Mr Patrick Stand, of Merrona; - "For to fish Salmon Trout, White fish, and Herring gill Nets, in Lake Ontario, for this current season; To be the same as last year. - amount to be, $8.00.

I have also to apply to you for a Boat license for Mr John Stand, of Grimsby. &c. &c.

To be the same as last year, amount to be $5.00.

I have much pleasure in recommending the same for your consideration; &c.

And with due respect,

The Honble
The Minister
&c &c &c.

I have. &c,
John Wiser J.P.

My dear Frank. — Thursday Evening. —

Your's of the 4th instant, received; I sent forward your application, and I expect a reply on tomorrow when I will telegraph you. —

I expect your license up on Saturday, for certain, perhaps on tomorrow. — Be prepared to go a head, the moment you hear from me. — I am just as anxious for you to commence driving stakes, as you are yourself.

Yours Sincerely
John W. Wiser, J.P.,
5. May 1881.

Mr Frank Jackson,
Fisherman.
Port Dover.

My dear Mr Bansch,

I sent you Doctor Stewart's letter, this morning to show you that neither David Moore nor he were applicants for the fishery in front of lot 21, and 22 in Lake Erie, in the township of Walpole, and County of Waldemand,

I sent you my application today for a license of those grounds, to Mr W. P. Innis. – And having written Mr W. P. Innis on 30, april, last thus! – Copy follows: here! –

I received from him in reply an answer, which I now enclose for your information, which will show you conclusively, that Mr Innis, is the applicant for the grounds referred to, and for two pounds, – I have already applied to you for! – When you read this letter of Mr Innis', you will please return it to me, also Dr Stewart's, sent you today.

After a little, by patience and perseverance, and a little energy on my part, I will get everything all right. – Believe me,

S. P. Bansch Esqre
Dep^t
Ottawa.

Yours respectfully,
Jos. Wheler, Jr.
Hamilton, 4, May 1881,

P.S.

When you have decided to give Jackson the grounds, I have applied for, please telegraph me, so that I may advise him, so that he (may) can begin to drive his stakes at once. – Yours Jos. Wheler Jr.

Sir,

6. May 1881. —

I have the honor to report for your information, that on the 30. of April last, all gill nets licenses, &c, expired for this year in Ashbridges Bay, Toronto. —

In a conversation I had with Mr Murphy, Barrister, Mr Arthur Harvey, and several other Gentlemen, on the 23rd of April last, when at Toronto, and from other good and substantial reasons. —

I have the honor now to recommend for your consideration and approval, that no more Net fishing of any Kind, be henceforth permitted in the waters of Ashbridges Bay, or in any part thereof.

And that no Eel lines, with hooks, be set or fished therein; but that the same be set apart, or appropriated exclusively for angling purposes. — To be for the benefit, and amusement of the Citizens of Toronto, who will highly appreciate a boon of this Kind, from the department of Marine and Fisheries. — I strongly recommend the same for your immediate attention. —

And with Much respect,

The Honble
The Minister,
&c, &c, &c,

I Have, &c,
John W. Kerr. —
J.O.

P.S. I have refused an application made to me, on the 2nd instant, because having in view something of this Kind. — The gentlemen named, and many others will be delighted, J. W. Kerr, J.O.

N.B. — please cancel W. B. Woolland's license for to fish a small bank in Ashbridges Bay, please refer to my letter of 24, March 1881, J. W. Kerr, J.O.

My dear Sir, 6. May 1881.

Will you be pleased to guid by todays Mail, licenses for Messrs Harris Beam, James Abbott, and Samuel Michel, for you to deliver to them immediately. —

I beg to inform you, that by an Official letter, dated, Ottawa 2. May instant, it has been Communicated to me, that: "The "William Leary, of Long point, has been appointed a Fishery "Overseer, at that place".

I give you this latter information, so that you may learn; you will in future have nothing to do with the Fisheries of Long point. — I expect everything will go on right after a little. —

Yours, &c.

John Wilson, F. O.

Owen Bowers Esqre,
F. Guardian,
Port Royal.

My dear Sir, 6. May 1881.

Yours received, five dollars is the usual license fee, for a Boat license to fish Salmon Trout, White fish, and Herring gill Nets, for the entire season of 1881. —

Yours Sincerely. —

John Wilson
F. O.

Abraham H. Grobb Esqre
Fisherman,
Beamsville, P. office.

Stationery 10^ct

Gentlemen, 5 May. 188.

I have the Honor to inform you, that I received recently from the Fisheries department, Ottawa. — Two fishing licenses, issued to Messrs David Moore, and James W. Stewart, residents of Port Dover, vizt. — One license is, for Two pounds Nets only, with a single head or pot, to be fished in Lake Erie, in front of Lots Nos 19, 20, 21, and the west 1/2, of 22, in the township of Charlotteville, and lots 3, 4, 5, and 6, in the township of Woodhouse, County of Norfolk. —

The license fee is to be Eighty dollars, for this license. —

I have also, received the second pound Net license, for to fish three pounds Nets only, with a single head or pot each, in Lake Erie, in front of Lots Nos 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16, in the township of Woodhouse, County of Norfolk. —

The license fee, for this license is $120. dollars. — Making in all the sum of $200.

The department instructs me; — "These you will "please Countersign, and deliver on payment of the "Stipulated fees". —

On receipt of One hundred and twenty dollars, for one license, and $80, for the second license, Total $200. — I will despatch the same to you by Mail (post)

And with due respect, I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obt Servant

John W. Lee J.P.

Messrs David Moore
&
James W. Stewart
Port Dover.

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to inform you, that I received recently from the Fisheries department, Ottawa,

One fishing license issued to M. W. Ainsley, and John S. Allan, Esqrs, of Port Dover. — For to fish two pound nets, only, with a single head or pot each, in Lake Erie, in front of lots nos 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13, Broken Front, township of Walpole, County of Haldimand. —

The license fee is to be $80. The department instructs me; "This license you will please countersign, and deliver, on payment of the stipulated fee."

On receipt of $80, from you, I will at once dispatch the license to you by Mail. (post)

I am Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

John W. Kerr, F.O.,

Hamilton, Ont.

5, May 1881,

Messrs M. W. Ainsley,
and
John S. Allan,
Port Dover.

My dear Frank. — 13. May 1881. —

On the 7th instant, I sent you two Licenses; for to fish four pound nets, in Lake Erie, in front of certain township lots in ~~Charlotteville and~~ Woodhouse, amounting to $160. — But you had previously paid in to The fisheries department, Ottawa. — a sum of $200, which would leave $40, due to you, which I have now the pleasure of sending you, per Post Office Order, for said amount. —

This Order is No. 7842, and is dated 13, May 1881,

And with kind regards, — Yours truly,

John W. Kerr,
F.O.,

Mr Frank Jackson,
Young Net Fisherman,
Port Dover.

Sir, 6. May 1881. —

I have the honor to send you Bank draft No. 24, for the sum of Eight dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows: for this current year, and send licenses for each. —

1, Mr Asa Bearss, of Sherkston, township of Humberston, and County of Welland. — For a license to fish one Seine 75 yards long, in Lake Erie, in front of lot No: 9, in the 1st Concession of Humberston, for this current year, $ 3.00,

2, Mr Wm Bates, B. Beach; For a Boat license for to fish 100 yards pike gill net in B. bay already received. (pike for to eat) $ 1.00

3, John Overpaw, Walsingham, For a license to fish a dip net, in Port Royal ship canal, Lake Erie, the amount to be, (Send license) $ 1.00

4, Frank, La Fortune, Walsingham, do, do.
do, do, do, 1.00,

5, W. C. Bantam, Walsingham, For a license to fish 200, Hooks, and lines, in the East half of the New Cut, Lake Erie, Long point. — $ 1.00

6, W. C. Bantam, Jr. Walsingham, For a license to fish 200, Hooks, and lines in Lake Erie say for 60, Rods, east of New Cut, he had this ground last year 1.00,

and with due respect, Total, $ 8.00

Hon: Minister,
I Have &c,
John Wickett J. O.

My dear Sir,

7. May 1881,

Will you be pleased to find herewith, a license for to fish two pounds in Lake Erie, in front of lots Nos 1, and 2, Broken front, township of Woodhouse, and County of Norfolk. - License fee is $80, dollars. —

Will you be also pleased to find herewith, a license, for to fish Two pounds in Lake Erie, in front of lots Nos 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24, Broken front, township of Woodhouse, and County of Norfolk,

I would recommend you to run your leads far out into the Lake. - License fee $80. —

I congratulate you on your Success, and being also, the first fisherman at Dover, who has paid his license. - I am in your debt $40, which I will pay you in a few days, And with my best wishes for your Success and prosperity. —

Mr H. Jackson,
Fisherman,
Port Dover.

I am, Your Friend,
John Wilkes,
Fishery Overseer

Wednesday 11. May 1881,

1/. Geo. B. Leach, David Fitch, and John Fitch, paid me, $1.4, for pike gill net fishing. - And Samuel Coney, paid $1.1.50 ct, for the same. - Went out at 8, a. m, came in at 2.30, p. m, Miles 26. S4 & B. $2.00 ct. - dinner 25 ct,

In one.

1/. Thence to Niagara, went out at 4, p. m, came in at 7.40, p. m, Miles 60. Ry fare $2.25 ct, and 80 ct. - Tea, 25 ct, and bed, 25 ct,

$5.80 ct.

My dear Sir, 10. May 1881,

Having applied to The Honble The Minister of Marine and Ottawa; "For authority to lay off the Seine hauling grounds in Outer Bay, Turkey point. —

The Minister consents to the same being carried into effect; thus!

Copy,

"Fisheries Branch.

Sir, — Ottawa, 6. May 1881. —

"Conformably to your suggestion you may proceed to "lay off the Seine hauling grounds in Outer Bay, Turkey point, "providing the parties interested pay all expenses". —

J. W. Kerr, Esqre
Hamilton,
Ontario

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
W. F. Whitcher
Commissioner of Fisheries.

"You will now arrange with Mr Walsh, the O. L. S. — at Simcoe, to straighten the ranges, for a day, when he will come to Turkey point, to do this! — prepare Anchors, and buoys, for to place in position, between each Seine hauling ground, as well as good posts to mark the boundaries on the beach. — By giving me 3 Notice before hand, when you have made all the necessary preparations and fixed the day; I will come up, meet Mr Walsh, and carry out the Orders given by the department; Believe me to be your Obedient Servant —

Mr Wm Smoke.
Fisherman, Turkey point.

John W Kerr D. O.,

P.S. — please let Bob Jackson, and Mr Ric: Clarke, know in behalf of Lucy Jackson, —

I set Frank Jackson his ground Net licenses on yesterday. W Kerr D. O.

Sir,

10. May 1881,

I have the Honor to send you Bank draft No: 32, for the sum of Twelve dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for pike gill net licenses, &c, for to fish in B. bay, already received for this season, and delivered.

1. Mr F. N. Carey, B. Beach, one net		$ c. 2.00.
2, Mr Ric: Taaffe,	do, in full, —	2,00,
3, Mortimer Carey,	do, in full. —	3.00,
4, Thomas Tarce, B. Beach, For a Seine license for to fish 250 yards Seine on lot No: 7, in B. bay, say up to the 24th day of May. — (please send me this license)		5.00.
	Total,	$ 12.00 c.

And with due respect,

The Hon:,
The Minister,
&c, &c, &c.

I Have, &c,
John W Kerr
J.P.

Thursday, 12, May 1881. —

Up to see Mr J. B. Plumb M.P. Thence to the town 2, and 1. Mile Creek. — Mrs Cantwell paid me, $ 15, dollars license fee, Albert Ball, $ 10, license fee, — Richard Allan, $ 15, license fee. — Alexander Keith $ 5, license fee, went out at 5, a.m, came in at 9, p.m, Miles 8. — Boat 50 c, Breakfast, dinner, tea, and bed $ 1,00 c

Friday, 13, May 1881. —.

Up at the Town, to settle a disagreement between John Bolton, and James Cantwell, about the Ranges between them, went out at 4, a.m, came in at 7, p.m, Miles 6, Boat 50 c.
Thence home to Hamilton by Railway returned Tickets, Breakfast & dinner 50 c. — Miles 52,

Sir,

10. May 1881. –

On the 6th instant, I had the honor to address you, and I recommended for your consideration and approval that no more Net fishing of any Kind be henceforth permitted in any part or portion of Ashbridges Bay, which is all situated within the limits of the City of Toronto. – – –

In addition to the above, I have now the honor to again recommend that no gill nets of any Kind or description shall henceforth be fished or be licensed for fishing in the waters of Toronto Bay, its inlets, ponds and Coves. – – –

And that Seine hauling for rough fishing at the Beau, and Block House Bay, be the only places fished any more in Toronto Bay: – And this Seine hauling for rough fish, shall only be permitted during spring time at those places named. – – – And that Ashbridges Bay, and Toronto Bay, and the Don, except the Beau, and Block House, as far up as the dam, at the Village of Cod-Monday, and the Humber and Marshes as far up as Mundas street, except on the west side of the mouth of the Humber, in Lake Ontario, be set apart and be excluded from Net fishing, and be protected for anglers, and for angling purposes by the vast concourse of the Toronto Citizens, and for their sole use and amusement, –

They as a matter of course, strictly conforming with the fishery laws in every particular. –

Toronto Island, Pa, instead of being still a barren waste, has now become an exceedingly smart place, with nearly 100. New residences up, and going up, all over the Island, from the gap, to Maulan's point, and surely it will not be out of place if I say it; The fisheries should be kept in pace with those vast improvements. –

Then as the City of Toronto, has almost extended to the Humber, by the opening up of a New pleasure park, in its vicinity, I would also recommend that

3

the waters of the Humber, and Marshes be kept free in future from the fishing of pike gill nets therein: — provided the same will meet your approval. —

I believe too, I should ask for the appointment of a Local fishery Guardian, at Toronto, to assist me in preserving and protecting the fish and the fisheries there, and in its vicinity. —

In conclusion I must protest against the News paper fues, that there is a decrease in the fish of Ashbridges Bay. — I am aware that the catch and take there this spring was very good. — I hope you will pardon me, for trespassing on your time, and with due respect,

The Honble
The Minister,
&c, &c. &c.

I have, &c,
John Kew —
Fishery Overseer.

P.S.

I sincerely hope that should you grant those privileges which I have recommended for your approval. — The anglers of Toronto, will at once assist me, in protecting the fish, and in enforcing the laws. —

Yours, John Kew,
F.O.

My dear Sir, — Having submitted your application to The Hon; The Minister, for permission to catch Bass, during close season for to stock a pond. — F.O.

I am instructed to inform you, that the Minister is under the impression it is much better for you to wait until the 15th instant, when you may catch all the Bass you may require. —

Yours Respectfully,
John Kew. F.O.
Hamilton, Ont.
10. May 1881,

Mr J. E. Decou,
Cat Down,
Ont.

Sir,

13. May 1881. —

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank draft, No: 47, for the sum of Sixty dollars. — — —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows; for this current year. — —

1. Thomas Elliot and Boy, Niagara, "For Seine hauling license already received, and delivered. — $ 30.00.

2, James Cantwell, Niagara. — For Seine hauling license, received and delivered. — 15.00.

3, Messrs. Richard Allan, Sr and Sons, Niagara, "For Seine hauling license, already received and delivered. — 15.00.

All of which is respectfully Submitted. — Total. — $ 60.00

The Honble I have, &c.

The Minister, John W. Kerr,

&c, &c, &c, J. Overseer.

postage Stamps 50 ct

My dear Ramsey. —

I have been expecting to hear from you, for some time. — Shortly after you were here, I applied for, and received a Seine license for you, and your brother Thomas, for to fish your pounds Nets in Lake Erie, between Nares point, and Rose point; Will you please hurry up, and send me some Money for the Fisheries department, at Ottawa. — Give my kind regards to Mrs Ramsey, & the wee Gyrl, and believe me as Usual,

Yours Fraternally,

John W. Kerr. J. O.

J. W. Ramsey Esq

Ridgeway,

Ont

Hamilton,

16. Mar 1881.

P. S. Did Dick Gilbert, buy your New pound? —

J W Kerr

J. O.

Sir,

13. May 1881.

I Have the honor to report for your information, that while in the Town of Niagara, on yesterday, and today, I collected the following license fees, for this current season.

1. John Bolton, Fisherman; For Seine hauling license, already received, and delivered. $15.00.

2. John Bolton, do. — For Boat license, do. — 5.00,

3. Charles Bolton, do. — For Boat license, do. — 5.00,

4. Messrs Albert, and Charles Ball, Fishermen. For a Seine hauling license, already received, and delivered. } 10.00,

5, Alexander Keith, Fisherman; For a Seine hauling ground in Lake Ontario, in front of the four Mile pond, in the township of Niagara, and County of Lincoln. — } 5.00.

Total, $ 40.00 $,

In connection with this amount of forty dollars, I have to report, that I purchased a post office Order, to-day, for this amount, and I sent the same to Mr Frank Jackson, Grand Net, fisherman, Port Dover, this amount being due to him; after deducting $160, dollars, license fees, for four pounds, which he has already received, for this current year, and which, when deducted from $200, dollars, "a deposit", leaves a balance of $40, dollars, still in Mr Frank Jackson's favour, and which I have discharged as above; at the same time notifying you as Ordered, so that you may make check entries in the office Books of the department. — —

Will you be pleased at the same time, to give the Five Niagara fishermen, whose Names I have given you, as above Credit for $40, which you still retain as part of Jackson $200. dollars. —

and with due respect,

Hon: Minister

I Have &c,

&c, &c,

John W Kerr J.C.

Sir,

14. May 1881,

I have the honor to apply to you, for a license, for the undermentioned fishermen, resident at Niagara, to fish in Lake Ontario between Stephensons point, and the 10 Mile Creek, and to extend outwards, in front of the same for a distance of 5, miles. —

I recommend that you will be pleased to grant the same as follows; for 1881.

1. Joseph Masters, and John Keith, fishermen, Niagara. — For to fish 2,000 yards of 5" inch mesh, extension measure, white fish gill net, and 1.500, yards of pickerel gill nets, in Lake Ontario, between Stephensons point, which is in the Township of Niagara, and the 10. Mile Creek, which is in the township of Grantham, in the County of Lincoln. — Licence fee, to be $5, dollars. —

2. Robert John Allan, fisherman, Niagara. For to fish 2.000, yards, White fish gill net. do. do. do. do.
and 1000 yards of pickerel gill net, do, do, do. —
licence fee to be, $ 5. dollars. —

3. Moses Albert, and Charles Ball, fishermen, Niagara, For to fish 2,200, yards of White fish gill nets, and 2,000 yards of pickerel gill nets, do, do, do, do,
licence fee to be $ 5 dollars. —

4. James Cantwell, fisherman, Niagara. For to fish 2,000, yards of White fish gill nets, and 1,500 yards of pickerel gill nets in do, do, do, do, do,
licence fee is to be $ 5, dollars.

5. John Bolton, fisherman, Niagara. For to fish 2,000, yards of pickerel gill nets, do, do, do,
licence fee is to be $ 5, dollars, paid, see letter 13, May, herewith. —

6. Charles Bolton, fisherman, Niagara, For to fish 2,000, yards of White fish gill nets, do. do. do,
licence fee, $ 5, dollars, paid, see Report of 13 May herewith.

7. Alex: Keith, fisherman, Niagara. For a licence licence to fish a 250 fathom Seine, in Lake Ontario, in front

of the 4 Mile pond, which is in the township of Niagara, licence fee of 5, dollars, paid. please refer to my report of 13 May 1881, herewith.

In submitting this application, you will please observe, that I have said from Stephensons point, which is about 3 Miles down the Lake from the mouth of the Niagara River, I have done so, to prevent excessive fishing for pickerel, which were frequently sold last season, at a cent a piece. — please say something in the licences on the subject!!.

The Seine fishing at Niagara, this season is good splendid and the demand for the fish is good, 8 and 10, dollars per 100 fish, is the price at which the fish are selling. No fish sold under 8 dollars per 100 fish this year, thus far! — and with much respect,

Hon; Minister — I Have &c,

&, &, &, John W Kerr J.P.

Mem; for Mr Bunset,

No pickerel gill Nets to be fished at unnominated places, nor after 6, o'clock on Saturday night, nor before 6, o'clock, on the following monday morning in each Week. —

J W Kerr, J.P. —

private! —

My dear Sir. — I propose coming down on Wednesday Evg, next, so that you and I can with the aid of a Couple of men and a Boat, go up the Chippawa and Lyons Creeks, — and Seize some gill Nets, illegally set and fishing there. —

Will you be pleased to tell the Chief, and make any preparation in the mean time you may consider necessary to ensure us Success. —

Mr Thomas Wynne, Yours Sincerely

Police Constable John W Kerr, J.P.

S: Bridge, Ont.

17. May 1881.

Sir,

14, May 1881,

I have the honor to report for your information, that on Monday last, the 9th of May instant, in the City of Hamilton, before James Cahill, Esqre Police Magistrate; I had the following persons fined; "For fishing for, catching and Killing Bass, on Saturday, the 30th of April last, in the waters of Burlington Bay, "Close Season", and in contravention of the Fisheries Act". – as follows;

1. A. Wright,	Hamilton.	Fined,	$1.00,	and Costs.
2. William Owens,	do,	do,	1.00,	do. –
3. J. M. Corry;	do,	do,	4.00,	do. –
4. John O'Brien,	do,	do,	1.00,	do. –
5. J. Smith,	do.	do.	1.00.	do. –
6. J. Dingwal,	do.	do.	1.00,	do. –
7. H. Allen,	do,	do.	1.00,	do. –
8. J. Wallace,	do,	do. –	4.00,	do. –
9. J. McAllister	do,	do,	4.00,	do. –
10. J. England,	do,	do,	1.00,	do. –
11. M. McGhee,	do. –	do.	4.00,	do. –
12. D. McDonnell,	do,	do.	1.00,	do,
13. Charles Allen,	do. –	do.	1.00,	do

All of which has been paid. – Total $25.00 cy, & Costs. – Half of this amount, I relinquished to the Witness, the Balance will be paid in to the Fisheries department, by the Convicting Magistrate. – All with due respect.

Hon; P.S. I got $2. from Mr Cahill for attending Court. J.W. Jr. – I have &c,

The Minister, John Wilson

&c. &c. &c, J.P.,

postage 25. –

Sir,

14. May 1881.

I have the Honor to report that on Sunday last from information received, I proceeded in a Boat out in Lake Ontario, say about 3 Miles out, in front of the Township of Saltfleet, where I found about 300 yards of 4½" inch mesh gill nets, and about 300 yards of 4" inch mesh, pike gill nets, set there by Richard Taaffe, and Sam: Coney, fishermen on B. Beach, the day previous. — The gill nets, are the property of Ric: Taaffe, I intend taking further proceedings against those persons soon, They admit, they set the Nets, to catch White fish, and did Catch 3. White fish on a previous occasion with these il=legal gill nets. — And with due respect,

Honble Ministers, — I Have &c.

John W. Sc[illegible] — F.O.,

Hamilton, Ont.

My dear Mansfield,

I expected to have heard from you before this! — Has Marks commenced to fish yet!. —

Who is Joseph Fisher, who applies to me for a license to fish Joe Blacks Seine, on the west side of the Harbour Frenchmans Bay. —

Except for Herring you do not require your White fish Seine, to be under four inch mesh, extension measure, please answer! —

Mr Thos: Mansfield, Fisherman, — Frenchmans Bay, Ont.

Yours Truly John W. Scott F.O.,

17. May 1881.

Sir,

16. May 1881.

I have the honor to apply to you, for White fish Seine hauling licenses, in Lake Ontario, on Burlington Beach, during this current season; — for the undernamed fishermen, viz^r, —

1. Messrs Jonathan, and Nehemiah Corey, B. Beach; —			$, ¢.
"For to fish on station No: 1, a 300, yard Seine: rate,			10.00.
2, Mortimer Corey, Burlington Beach,		Rate,	10.00,
3. Thomas Joice,	do,	do. —	10.00,
This license will be for Station No: 6. —			
4. David Fitch, Burlington Beach,		Rate,	10.00,
5. Alexander Rollo,	do,	do. —	10.00,
6, John Gaffe,	do,	do. —	10.00,
7. Samuel Jones,	do,	400 yard Seine, do. —	10.00,
This license will be for station No: 10, but not for 10. and 10. —			
8. Daniel McGuyne, B. Beach,		Rate,	10.00,
9. Benj. Foulds,	do. —	do. —	10.00,
10. Fred^k N. Corey,	do,	do,	10.00,

The licenses to be the same for each fisherman, as those issued for last season: — But with clause inserted therein; vizt, "Seining for White fish is permitted between the 30th of May; and 1st of August on B. Beach", —

My object in recommending this clause being inserted in the license, may be judged by you, from my similar annual application see my application of 3. March 1880, and to guard against public informers, in case the clause was omitted from the licenses, — ("They would take an advantage and infalue",)

I have much pleasure in recommending this application for your favourable consideration, hoping that you will be pleased to grant the same at your earliest convenience. —

"All Salmon, and Speckled White fish caught: to be instantly liberated alive" — And no Seining to be carried on, between 6. o'clock, on Saturday, and 6. o'clock

on the following monday morning in each week." —
This latter clause is a good preventative against excessive fishing. — In conclusion, I beg most respectfully to submit and recommend this application. —

And with due respect,

Hon: Minister,

H, H, H,

I Have, &c,

Lohn W Kerr,

J.O,

Sir.

14. May 1881,

I Have the honor to submit for your consideration a petition signed by Mr Billings, the Mayor, and One Hundred and forty residents of the Town of Whitby; addressed to your Honor; praying: "That the waters comprising Whitby Harbour, and the Marshes attached, be exempt from Net fishing; so as to give the inhabitants of the Town of Whitby, the opportunity of angling, &c. therein. — This privilege those people already enjoy, and have permission to do. — So that the means of recreation is not destroyed by Messrs John Broadfoot, and George White net fishing therein. — The license fee paid annually by them is only 8 dollars. — And they do not fish for a livelihood, except for a short time in the spring each year. — —

I do not wish to see those two Men deprived altogether of fishing therein; because they have enjoyed this privilege for a great number of years, and while endeavouring in my desire to accommodate the good people of Whitby, and the outsiders as well for whose benefit this petition was got up, to my knowledge, pic-nic, parties from a distance. —

I must never forget the claims Mr John Broadfoot, and Mr George White, both old residents of Whitby, have as old licensees, on the fisheries department. — Those men have paid their license fee in good faith, and deserve to be treated with consideration also, by the department. —

The petition being so numerously signed, by the respectable inhabitants of Whitby, I must not altogether forget them either. — —

I would therefore respectfully recommend that henceforth, Net fishing of all kinds, shall terminate each year, on the 30th day of April, in Whitby Harbour, and Marshes, and I do this, so as to give the petitioners, and their friends an opportunity of angling for, and catching larger fish, than those the petitioners represent can be procured in Whitby Harbour, &c. at present. — And with due respect,

The Honble
The Minister
W. W. W.

I Have, &c.
John W Kerr,
J.P.

P.S. I do not consider it advisable, that the people of Whitby, &c, should pay for angling,
J.P. &c, J. W. Kerr,
J.P.

J. Sunday, 15. May 1881. - - -
On B. Beach, heard Duncan McGillivray had gone out on Saturday evening to set his gill nets in L. Ontario opposite Biggars Bush, Salt Creek, and was not up to that hour heard from, went out at 12.30. p.m. came in at 6.30. p.m. Miles 24, 54 & B. 2.00.

J. Tuesday 17. May 1881,
at Toronto Island, Mr. O. Gray, paid me 30 — 20 for Lance hauling ground, on the Island, 10. for ground at the mouth of the Humber, and 5, from Ned Hanlan, for his license on the Island; went out at 8. a.m. came in at 6. p.m. Miles, 90; Rod & 2. dinner 40, Boat 50, Saw Dave; Ward, who told me Billey his son was in Town, and he would send the Money to me by post.

My dear Sir, 16. May 1881,

Yours received, enquiring if you will be permitted to set three pounds in a string, out in front of Lots, Nos. 1, and 2, Township of Woodhouse. —

On receipt of this, please inform me, the entire length of the three pounds, including the pots, or heads; when set in a string, one after the other, right out into the Lake, and I will try, and manage it for you. — Under your license, you are permitted to go out 180. Rods or 990 yards. — How much further do you require to go, answer at once. — Yours Sincerely,

Mr Frank Jackson, John W. Kerr, F.O.,
Fisherman,
Port Dover.

P.S. If 180. Rods, is not enough, just say, how much you will require; and if more than 180, Rods, please send me back license for to fish in front of lots Nos 1, and 2, township of Woodhouse, and I will send it back to Ottawa, and ask, and recommend the department to alter the License so as to accommodate you. — Yrs JW Kerr, F.O.

My dear Sir, Hamilton,

I wrote you on yesterday, to say, I would be down on this evening. I am obliged to defer coming until tomorrow morning; Thursday morning, when if nothing happens, I will leave here say by 10. o'clock a.m. Train,

Yours Sincerely
John W Kerr
F.O.
18. May 1881,

Mr Thos: Wynne
P. Constable
S. Bridge Ont.

Sir,

16. May 1881.

I have the honor to apply to you for Licences for the under=named fishermen, and I recommend that the same be granted for this current year. —

1. John Wadsworth, of Queenston; "For a licence to fish a Machine in the Niagara River, at Queenston Heights, to be the same as last year. —

2. James Stewart & Boy, of Queenston, "For a licence to spear Sturgeon on fishing Stations Nos 18. and 19, in the Niagara River, at Queenston Heights. — $6.00.

3. James Wynne, of Queenston; "For a licence to fish a Ma=chine on fishing station No: 3, in the Niagara River, at Queenston Heights, also to have the privilege of using the bank of the River, to secure and fix his Machine thereto, the licence fee to be, $5.00.

4. Joseph Gabriel Sr Queenston, "For a licence to fish a Machine on fishing Station No: 1, in the Niagara River, at Queenston Heights. — The licence to be free, for this year only, in con=sequence of his Machine, being Maliciously destroyed last year.

I recommend this, for your consideration and approval. —

5. Harry Sheppard, Queenston, "For a Seine hauling licence in the Niagara River, at Queenston, to be the same as last season. $10.00. And with due respect,

The Hon:
The Minister
&c. &c. &c.

I have &c.,
John M. Kerr,
F. O.

Sir.

16. May 1881,

I Have the honor to apply to you, for Licenses for the undermentioned fishermen, and I beg most respectfully to recommend that you will be pleased to grant the same, as soon as convenient. —

The same to be issued for this current season, and sent to me for delivery. —

1, Mr Thomas Reid, of Grantham; For a Boat license, same as last year. — $ c. 5.00.

2, Peter Math, fisherman, Port Dalhousie, For a Seine license to fish in Lake Ontario, west side of the Welland Canal, — This license to contain all the different clauses that are inserted in White fish Seine hauling licenses issued to the Fishermen on Burlington Beach. — The license fee to be $ c. 10.00.

3, Peter Math, fisherman, Port Dalhousie, For a Boat license same as last season. — $ c. 5.00.

4, Abraham H. Grobb, of Clinton, For a Boat license to fish in Lake Ontario, in front of the township of Clinton, &c. Say between Moir's wharf, which is near the 20. Mile pond, and Knuckles Creek, or the Yellow Creek; Say for about 2,000 yards of White fish and Herring gill nets altogether, the License fee to be, $ c. 5.00

And with due respect,

Honble

The Minister,

&c. &c. &c.

I Have, &c.,

John W Kerr

P.O.,

Hamilton, Ont.

My dear Woolland, — you will get me into more hot water, if you do not send me some license money. — And you will hurt yourself, more severely, than you will harm and hurt me. —

Any News! any one fishing gill nets, or Sol Lewis now in Ash Bridges bay. Let me have your reply at once, immediately. —

Yours Sincerely

John W Kerr P.O.

Mr W. B. Woolland

Fisherman,

Jordanville.

18. May 1881.

Sir,

18. May 1880.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank draft No. , for the sum of Fifty dollars.

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, for this current year; - as follows: -

1. Mr Patrick Gray, fisherman, For a Seine hauling license "jointly with David and William Ward", on Toronto Island, already received and delivered. $ 20.00.

2. Patrick Gray, do. - "For a Seine hauling license at the Stumber, do, do, do, 10.00.

3. Mr Edward Hanlan, Toronto island, - For a fishery there, at his place, do, do, do. - 5.00.

4. Messrs George Marks, and George Mann, Frenchmans Bay, For a license to fish a White fish Seine, 250 yards long, in Lake Ontario, bay between the West pier of the Frenchmans bay Harbour, and Brewers bank, which is in the township of Pickering and the south Riding of Ontario, "please send me license, and insert all the protective clauses therein", 10.00.

5. Mr Abraham H. Grobb, of Clinton, For a Boat license, already applied for, on yesterday, 16th instant, 5.00.

Respectfully submitted and recommended. - Total, $ 50.00.

The Honble
The Minister,
F. F. F.

I have, &c,
John W Kerr,
F.O.

NB. Hanlan is building a New wharf, 400 feet long, in the Bay, near his Hotel. The old one was carried away this spring, with the Ice.

JW Kerr, F.O.

Stationery 30 c.

Sir,

18. May 1881. –

I Have the honor, to enclose herewith the Frank Jacksons, pound Net license, for to fish two pounds only in Lake Erie, in front of lots Nos 1, and 2. – Broken front, township of Woodhouse. –

And in doing this! I beg most respectfully to recommend that you will be pleased to add to this license; The east ½. of lot No: 22, Lot. No: 23, and Lot No: 24. township of Charlottevilla ... Not at present occupied by any other person. –

And all to extend into the Lake, for a distance of 200. Rods.

The object is to fish 3. pounds in a string, instead of 2, pounds, which I recommend for your approval.. –

And with due respect, –

Hon'. Minister.

I Have, &c,

&c. &c. &c,

John W. Kerr,

P.O.

P. S. – please return to me the license again. –

J. W. Kerr, P.O.

Thursday, 19. May 1881,

at S. Bridge, and Chippewa, collected Five dollars, for license fee for fishing from John Addons Henry Logan and John Downey. $3. pour each", in the Chippewa, and Lyons Creeks, got a boat examined the Creeks, afterwards found two of the Nets on fences, went out at 5. a. m. came in at 5. p. m, Miles, 106. Ry fare $2.25, S4 & B, $2.00. Boat and Man $1.25, Breakfast 40¢, dinner 25¢, 1.90 4.25 6.15

See application for licenses, dated 20. May 1881

private,

Memorandum, for Mr James S. Webster,

Fisheries department, Ottawa.

P. D. Bates, Barton, license #3.

John Jaffe, Burlington Beach, #3. —

Copy of License. — —

In that part of Burlington Bay, situated East, and South of a line run direct from the end of the board fence, between Grant and Murray's farms, on the bank of the Bay, township of Barton, and Martin's wharf, on Burlington Beach. No fishing whatever to be done in any of the Inlets, nor in any part of the waters of the Bay set apart for the propagation of fish. —

For the privilege of fishing from the present date to the 8th May 1881. — License is dated 1st March 1881. —

The foregoing is a true copy of licenses issued to Messrs P. D. Bates, No: 6. — #3, — 16. April, and John Jaffe, No: 2, #3. — see my letter of 28. April last. — and to Alex: Nelson, No: 1. #3. — and Thomas Jones, No: 3. #3. — see my letter of 20th of April last, and to Wm Bates, No: 2, 6, May, instant, #1. — and to F. N. Lorey, No: 1. #2, — Rec: Jaffe, No: 2, #2, Montague Lorey, No: 3. #3. please refer to my letter 10 May, instant, draft No: 32. —

By reference to my application of 23, February 1881. — you will find I asked for 17, pike gill net licenses. — You filled up one, in the Name of Robert Hall, resident on B. beach. — I filled up all the rest, and they are all similar. —

Now with reference to! — "There is also another item of #5, in your letter of 13th instant, on behalf of John Bolton, for a Boat license, which I fail to find in the Books?" — I may here tell you, I never yet received this Boat license; please refer to my application for Boat licenses Nos. dated 14 May instant, and you will

find John Bolton, Correct, and this boat license, only then applied for. — The letter of the 13. May, instant, was merely to show that $40, — made up of five different items, license fees, which I paid back, to Frank Jackson, per Order from department, out of the fees, I had collected from fishermen at Niagara; the fisheries department, had already, in their possession $40. — previously sent by me from Frank Jackson. —

		$. ¢
Vouchers	On 1st of January 1881, draft, No: 177. —	100.00.
"	On 18. of April 1881. — do, " 554. —	100.00.
Deduct. By four pound nets licenses, received and delivered to Frank Jackson, at $40. each pound. —	Total . —	$. 200.00¢.
		100.00
Balance held by me, subject, — Ottawa. —		$ 40.00¢.

Referred to this, in my letter of 13. May 1881. — to which you allude in &c, — John Bolton. —

1. John Bolton: Fisherman; "For seine hauling license already received and delivered. — 15.00.—
2. John Bolton, do, For Boat license, do. — 5.00.
   "Please see No: 5, in my application of 14. May 1881."
3. Charles Bolton, do. — For Boat license — do, — 5.00.
   "Please see No: 6, in my application of 14. May 1881."
4. Messrs Albert and Charles Ball, &c, &c, 10.00,
5. Alex; Keith, Fisherman, For a seine hauling license, &c, 5.00.
   "Please see No: 7, — in my application of 14 May 1881." —

I hope this will prove to your satisfactory. Yours, $40.00¢.

Hamilton, Ont^o.
18. May 1881.

Yours fraternally. —
John W. Kerr,
Fishery Overseer.

My dear Frank, Write you now, please find your license for to fish 3 pounds in front of lots Nos: 1. and 2. township of Woodhouse, and in front of lots 23, 24, and the east 1/2 of 22, in the Township of Charlotteville. — And you can run them out in a straight line for 200. Rods.

Hamilton Ont^o Nov 7, 1881

Mr Frank Jackson
Fisherman Port Dover,

21. May 1881.

Sir,

18. May 1881,

I have the honor to report for your information, that on yesterday, when visiting the Fisheries, and licensed fishermen, on Toronto Island. — I observed a very great many dead and dying Alewives, herring, or shad, floating on the waters of Toronto Bay, and on the beach of the said Bay, lying dead, but this I attribute to natural causes and is not the act of any of the fishermen, nor of any one else. —

I have heretofore annually, since June 1872, reported to you on this subject; and I do so now again so as to gratify your mind, as well as relieve your mind of the wilful and malicious reports published by lying and unscrupulous persons in some of the Toronto Newspapers. — Laying the blame, or attempting to lay blame, on innocent persons. — and with much respect.

Hon: Minister,

H. H. H.

I have, &c,

John Wilson,

F. M.

Memorandum for Mr S. C. Bascom,

F. dept Ottawa.

Many thanks for the letter Book, But I have got no letter Book press. — please send me a Couple of packages large official envelopes. — and a package of small official envelopes. — and you will much oblige

Hamilton Ont

20. May 1881,

Yours obediently,

John Wilson

F. M.

Saturday 21. May 1881,

On B. Beach, gave Orders that no more fish nets can be set in L. Ontario, on B. Beach, until Seine hauling for White fish terminated, John Bates paid me $3. went out at 2. p. m. Came in at 6.30. p. m. Mile 24. —

H H B. 2.00. — Stamps .25.

Sir,

19. May 1881,

I have the honor, to apply to you, for a license for Mess.rs Absalom Stover, and Darius Swartz, residents of the Township of Rainham, and County of Haldimand. —

"For to fish in that portion of the waters of Lake Erie, in front of Lots, Nos: 6, 7, 8, and 9, in the 1st Concession of the township of Rainham, and County of Haldimand. —

For two pounds nets only, with a single head or "pot," each, and to extend into the Lake, One Hundred and thirty Rods. —

The rate, or license fee, for each pound, to be $4, per year, or season; say Eighty dollars in all, or in full. —

I have much pleasure in recommending this matter for your Consideration, and approval, hoping you will be pleased to issue this License, with the least possible delay. — And with due respect,

Hon: Minister,
H. H. H.

I Have &c,
John W. Kerr,
J. Overseer.

My dear McCall,

I return Holmes's license, with correction made. — I also send you his license for Stations No: 7, Outer Bay, Turkey point. — Hand this latter license to him, on his paying you, $5, license fee, — which you will please send me with the other Moneys. —

Hamilton, Ont.
20. May 1881,

Yours &c,
John W. Kerr
J. O.

Sir,

20. May 1881.

I have the Honor to send you herewith, Bank draft No 71, for the sum of thirteen dollars, and fifty cents. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for this current season, as follows;

1. John Aldous of Chippewa; For a boat licence to fish 200, yards of gill nets in the Chippewa and in Lyons Creeks; to extend up the said creeks for a distance of two miles from the Canada Southern Railway Bridge in Chippewa; but 1/3 of those streams must be always free from Nets; the same being in the township of Stamford. Licence fee: $ ¢ 3.00,

2, Henry Logan. do. do, do, 3.00,

3. John Downey. — do, do, do, 3.00,

4, William Myers, Houghton, a Boat licence for to fish 100. Hooks, on Night lines, in Lake Erie, south of the front road, in the township of Houghton, —.50.

5, Colin La Fortune, Walsingham, For a boat licence to fish 100, hooks, on Night lines, in Lake Erie, in front of the third 15, Rods of beach lot No: 10, commencing east and running west, township of Walsingham. — —.50¢.

6, George Overpaw, Walsingham — For do, do, do, in front of the 4th 15, Rods, of do, do, do, —.50¢.

7, James Becker, Walsingham. — For do do. do, in front of the 5th 15 Rods of do, do, do, —.50¢.

8. Sam Peck, Walsingham — For do, do do, in front of the 6th 15 Rods of do do do, —.50¢

9. Henry Becker, Walsingham, — For do. do do, in front of the 7th 15 Rods of do, do, do. —.50¢.

10. Henry Brandon, Jr, Walsingham, For do, do, do, in front of 8th 15, Rods of do, do, do, —.50¢.

11, Henry Osborne, Walsingham, For a boat licence to fish 100, hooks, on Night lines, in Lake Erie, in front of the East 1/4, of the east 1/2, of beach lot No: 9, township of Walsingham —.50¢

12. John Countryman, Walsingham; For a boat license to fish 100. hooks, on Night lines, in Lake Erie, in front of the east half of the east ½ of back lot No; 9, township of Walsingham. — — 50 ¢

Total, $ 13.50 ¢

all of which is respectfully submitted for your consideration, and I beg most humbly to recommend that you will be pleased to issue licenses for each person, at your earliest. convenience.

Hon; The Minister
F. F. F.

I Have &c,
John Vankoughnet
F. R.

My dear McCall, — 20, May 1881,

I send you herewith, 16, spearing licenses, which you will deliver, on receiving the usual fee, of $1, from each person. —

Fill in the residence, after the Name of each person. — And mark date and your name on back of license, when you receive the Money. — Have you no hook and line fishing in your division! what about Wilson, and other some Not fishermen, Cornhott, &c, &c, &c, who have not paid yet!!.

No man can fish nets or other apparatus, except under leases or licenses and to obtain these he or they must first pay in his Money, and apply for the license; you attend to all this at once. I return you the Helmer's license, with the correction made. — The Names, for which I filled out licenses are as follows; 1, R. S. McCall, 2, G. Wells - 3, Wm Woolson, 4, Wm Beacroft, 5, G Backhouse, 6, J. Horton, 7, Wm Thorold 8, Wm Harrison, 9; G. W. Price, 10, A. Price, 11, Jas; Stugak, — 12, John Britt, 13, C. Hunter, 14, E. Price, 15, Wm Britt 16, S. Price. — See those persons at once, they must pay you immediately when you will send me the money, so that I may despatch it to the dept Ottawa. —

James W. McCuaig Esqr
F. Grandair
St Williams,
Ont

Yours Sincerely
John Vankoughnet
F. R.

Sir,

21, May 1881.

I have the Honor to send you, herewith Bank draft No. 74, for the sum of Eighty five dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows; for this current season. —

1. Mr. H. B. Smith, Toronto township; For a Seine hauling ground to fish in Lake Ontario; that is to say; Commencing at the Eastern limits of Mess. B, and F. Reid's, Seine hauling ground, which is situated in Lake Ontario, in front of the Glade, and Mr. Jarvis, township of Toronto, thence East, towards Long pond, for a distance of 1,000. yards, and extending outwards two miles, the amount, $5.00.

I recommend that you will be pleased to grant this license at once, and be pleased to insert therein, all the protection clauses. — —

2, Messrs. David Moore and James W. Stewart, of Port Dover. For licenses, for fishing pound Nets in Lake Erie, in front of the township of Woodhouse, as therein specified. — I have already received licenses for this firm, but have not yet delivered them. — I must have all the money first, sent now on acct. $80.00

Total $85.00

And with due respect,

Hon: Minister,

I Have, &c,

&c, &c, &c,

John W. Kerr

T.O.

Sunday, 22, May 1881. —

At St. Catherines, Port Dalhousie, and Niagara, went out at 10, a.m. came in at 4.30, p.m. Miles 50, Ry fare $1. H & B. 2.00, dinner 50¢, tea and 50¢, found all regular, heard of persons being out Bass fishing on American side from the Town of Niagara. — —

My dear Barnes,

I will be at Turkey point, on next thursday, the 26th of May, instant, nearly all day. —

I would like very much, to see you there, if you can make it convenient to come, and have a friendly chat over our fishing affairs. —

Mr Thomas Walshe, of Simcoe, C. L. Surveyor, will be there, and I also expect Mr Jas: W. McCall, F. Guardian to [illegible] between the Lower [illegible] grounds. — Yours fraternally,

Thos Walker, F. O.

Hamilton, 21. May 1881.

Thos Barnes Esq.
F. Guardian,
Port Royal.

My dear McCall.

I propose to be at Turkey point, on next thursday, the 26th of May instant, accompanied by Mr Thomas Walshe C. L. S. to try, and lay off the Simcoe Stauling grounds in the Outer Bay, of Lake Erie, at Turkey point; so as to satisfy all fishermen concerned. —

Will you be pleased to meet me at Mr Wm Snooks, about 9, o'clock, A. m, on that morning. — Bring all that money with you, for which I sent you receipts for delivering. —

Yours Sincerely,

Thos Walker, F. O.

Hamilton, 21. May 1881.

Jas: W. McCall Esq.
F. Guardian,
St Williams.

5. Monday, 23. May 1881. —

Up to the four Mile pond, saw Robert John Allan and Ric; Allan Jr, also Jack Raynau and Dick Wootton, Albert, Chas Ball, and John Bolton, and Cautioned them not to catch too many White fish, no more than they could dispose of profitably, and advised them not to do so, went out at 4. a. m, came in at 7. Miles 10. Boat and man 50 cts. — 500 daily deficient. — Breakfast 25 cts, passage in Chicora $1, dinner and tea 50 cts. — Boat to go up the river, and to Billy Wards $1.00 cts, Bed 25 cts, Miles 40 $3.50.

Mr. Reid or Mr F. Reid,

I received a note enclosing $5, from Mr. H. B. Smith, to-day, for a seine license for to fish on the same ground Mr Morse had last year; That is to say Commencing at the Eastern limits of your seining ground and running east 1000. yards towards Lome park, —

Will you be pleased to tell him, he may begin and fish, as I have sent his money to the Fisheries department, Ottawa and will get his license up in a few days. I hope you are getting white fish. —

Yours truly,

Mr P. Reid
or
Mr F. Reid, Clarksons Corners P.O.

John W. Stone J.P.,
21. May 1881,

Monday. 23. May — Continued. — Miles ,
went out at 11. a.m. came in at 10. p.m. —
Billy Ward and W. B. Woolland paid their license fees for 1881. — Ward $40, Woolland $10. —

Tuesday. 24. May 1881,
At Toronto Island, Toronto, and Clarksons Corners, to see F. Reid, about fishing, thence back to Port Credit, saw J. G. Wilcox, about a, Marrigold setting, hooks and night lines in River Credit, thence home to Hamilton, went out at 6. a.m, came in at 4. p.m, Miles 54, Boat 35 cts, Breakfast and dinner 50 cts, Ry 80 cts, and 65 cts

Wednesday. 25. May 1881.
Go to Port Dover, on my way to Turkey point, delivered to David Moore for self and Jas: W. Stewart Esqre a license for to fish two pounds west of Dover in Lake Erie, which was previously paid for! went out at 3 p.m came in at 7. p.m. Miles 41. Ry fare $2,60 cts. Tea and bed 50 cts, Telegraph to Mr Thos: Walshe 38 cts, postage 50 cts.

Sir

25. May 1881,

I have the honor to receive your letter of 19th inst: — wherein you say: "It is not explained in any of your reports, for what reason you gave licenses to Mr W. B. Woollard, extending beyond the time to which you limited others." —

In answer, and explanation to this, I have now to report that I have done so, in Order to stop "Sunday fishing and illegal fishing of all Kind", because Woollard having the place under his Control by license, stopped all illegal fishing there! — I have seen Woollard, Gray, and Ward, &c, the Coast is clear. — And with due respect,

W. F. Whitcher Esqre, I Have &c,

Commissioner of Fisheries, John W Kerr,

Ottawa. — — P.M.

P.S.

I am off this morning to Lake Erie, Turkey point &c, and I will write you on the "Schedule of Licenses issued to fish in Ash=bridges Bay, Toronto Harbour, the Don, and Humber Rivers" — so please dont do any more, until you hear from me officially which you will, on my return; after I had arranged everything, I handed copy of letter to the clerk, as you in=structed me. —

&c

John W Kerr, — P. M.

Thursday, 26, May 1881,

Off to Turkey point, met Mr Thos: Walshe, at Vittoria, Who fixed and established the Ranges at, and between Mrs Ferris, Lucy Jackson, William Helmer, and Mr Smith, reducing Jackson, and Helmer grounds from 30 chains frontage, to 25 chains frontage. — Ferris's grounds remains as before; the buoys are not placed in the Lake until report is sent in and approved of. — The base line is established at the Lane, west side between Jackson and Ferris's, and range fixed at right angles. — Ferris's ground runs east to Cedar point, towards Normandale.

Evidently the Changes made by Bradshaw in the

Sir,

25, May 1881.

I have the Honor to send you Bank draft No: 82, for the sum of Eighty Six dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, as follows; for this current year, and past year. —

1, Messrs Patrick Gray, David Ward, and William Ward, of Toronto Island; — "For Seine hauling ground on Toronto Island, in Lake Ontario, &c. &c." This amount is in full; and from the Messrs Wards — License already received by me and delivered; — (Fishermen) $ 20.00,

2, Messrs David Ward, and William Ward, of Toronto Island; — For Boat license received and delivered $ 20.00.

3, W. B. Woollard of Leslieville, fisherman. For a Seine hauling license in Lake Ontario, in front of Ashbridges Bay, between the gap, and the eastern limits of the City of Toronto already received and delivered. — $ 5.00.

4, W. B. Woollard, of Leslieville, a fisherman. "For a boat license to fish about 2000, yards of White fish and S. Trout gill nets, in L. Ontario, in front of the township of Scarborough. — Now sent you, $ 5.00.

"I applied for this Boat license on the 25th of March last, but have not yet received it!!!" —

5, Thomas Mansfield, fisherman, Frenchmans Bay, — "For a Seine hauling in Lake Ontario, &c. &c. &c. to be the same as last season. — $ 10.00.

6, J. W. Ramsey, of Ridgeway. Balance in full for last year's pound Net license now paid up. — $ 25.00,

7, Dan Seeleys, of Walsingham, "For a boat license to fish 200. Hooks, on Night lines, in L. Erie, in front of the East ½, of Lot No: 14, Broken front, township of Walsingham. $ 1.00

and with due respect, Total $ 86.00

Hon: Minister

I Have, &c,

John W. Ross

F. O.

&c. &c. &c.

original ranges, was due to some Farms and Stock, and especially in June Wm Snook, who during June his ground away off it, has had no chance to live, starvation staring him in the face. – Mr Walsh was paid by Snook $3.50c, and Lucy Jackson paid him $3.50c, for survey, and a plan; dinner tea and bed 75c, Horse and Buggy $2.00c, went out at 6.30. A.m., came in at 9. p.m., Miles about 36. –

Friday 24, May 1881. –

1/1 At Stowers point, saw the pound set at Manticoke, belonging to Ansley and Allen, and in point of Creek, east of Manticoke, Stakes driven for two pots, – Allen and men were placing the Nets in position. – So I did not have an opportunity of talking to Allen; thence to Sandusk, saw Jas: La Rose, and Mr W. J. Rusling, they had stakes driven for 2 pots, – they lease from Mr W. P. Innis, of Simcoe. – Their terms are $100, a year, for 2 years, besides $20, for a New lead, and to pay the rent $60. – Bid La Rose, and Mr W. J. Rusling good bye, and went on to Stowers, bay, meet Mr Absalom Stowers on the Road, and had a chat with him, he; with his wife and Children were on their way to Selkirk, where I saw him afterwards. Continued on my way to the pound 2, set out, saw Darius Lewis, and Mr O. Silvey for his a pleasant Chat, gave Darius Copy of Fishery Act, went out at 6.30, A.m., Came in at 3.30, p.m. at Port Dover, Miles 36, 14 – Buggy $2.00c, from Dover to Stanilton 38 Miles – Breakfast dinner tea &c. $1.00c

My dear Sir, Will you be pleased to give your fishing licence (2) herewith, for this current year of 1881. –

Be pleased to Keep within the bounds of the Fishery Act, rules Orders in Council and Regulations. –

And with my respects to you all, believe me

Yours truly

John Wilson

28, May 1881.

Mr Peter North

Superintendent.

Port Dalhousie

Sir, 28. May 1881.

I have the honor to send you Bank draft No: 95, for the sum of Twenty One dollars. —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows; for this current season. —

1. William Holmes, F. point, For Seine hauling license on Lot No: 7, in the Outer Bay, Lake Erie, already received and delivered, — — 5.00, ✓

2. Peter Hath, Port Dalhousie, For a Boat license to fish, in Lake Ontario, &c, &c, already received and delivered. 5.00,

3. Peter Hath, do, For a Seine hauling License in Lake Ontario, on the west side of the Welland Canal township of Grantham; already received and delivered. 10.00,

4. William Overpaw, Walsingham, For a license to fish 100 Hooks, on Night lines, in Lake Erie, within the limits of 30. Rods, which is in front, on the west side of Lot No: 11, township of Walsingham. "please send me license". —.50. ✓

5. Nelson La Fortune, Walsingham, For a license to fish 100. Hooks, on Night lines, in L. Erie, within the limits of 30. Rods, which is in front, on the East side of lot No: 11, township of Walsingham, please send me license —.50. ✓

And with due respect, Total, $ 21.00

Hon. Sir

The Minister

&c, &c, &c,

I have &c,

John W. Kerr

F.O.,

Stationery. 50 ¢,

J W Kerr Esq. F.O.,
Hamilton. —

Guelph, 30. May 1881,

Dear Sir, What has become of the fish for Pudwich, Lake, I heard some time ago, that Salmon Trout had arrived at Hamilton, and that the cans was placed in the Bay, to be forwarded to the Lake in a few days, What is the matter let me hear from you at your earliest Convenience, Yours fraternally

John Hamilton,

~~Sir~~ 28. May 1881.

~~In obedience to your Orders, I have the Hon.~~

Sir, 3. June 1881.

I Have the honor to attach herewith, a Complaint made, by a Mr J. W. Anderson of Elora, Complaining of persons for polluting the waters of the Grand River; waters inhabited by fish. —

I have taken the liberty of writing myself to Mr Geo: Hawkins, of Elora, Village, to abate the offence immediately. — and should I prosecute? —

Also to Messrs Perrin, & Brothers of Doon to do likewise at once, . —

Flax and Lime, are both deadly ingredients, when permitted to enter Rivers containing fish; such as the waters of the Grand River is! — it is very bad and destructive for the fish. —

I have frequently received letters from Mr Anderson, which I have disposed of in a similar manner, with success, and which I hope will meet your approval: — And with due respect. Ottawa, Ont,

W. H. Whitcher Esqre John Wilson, P.O.,

Com: of Fisheries, Ottawa.

Mr Kerr, Insp: of Fisheries, Elora, May 28, 1881.

Hamilton. — Dear Sir. I wish to call your attention to Mr George Hawkins of this Village, Egg dealer, who throws Lime water in the Grand River, at this place, as he carries on a large business in pickling all the refuse, Lime is being put into the River. — —

Also, Mr Perrin, Bros & Co carry on a Flax Mill at Alboyne, on the Grand River 1½ miles north of this Village who are allowing refuse to go in daily. Perrins, P.O, address, is Doon Stn: Waterloo. By attending to these violators of our fishery laws, you will much oblige myself, as well as many other Sportsmen here. — Yours Respectfully,

J. W. Anderson.

Sir,

30. May 1881. —

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 19th instant, in which you say; "A letter herewith, which you are at liberty to make public, advises you of what the Minister authorizes you, to be done in the matter of Not fishing about Toronto"—

Used in reply, I beg to inform you, that after I had seen Woolland, Gray, and Coy, — I handed in the Copy of your letter, to the Mail for publication, and I now append for your information, an article which appeared in the Mail on 24, of May instant, — A Glowing photo it is too!!!:

You say! — "I am to call your attention to the enclosed list of licenses, which have been issued at your instance, and to ask how you would propose to deal with such of them as are unexpired"?

In reply to this, I have the honor to submit a revised list of the licenses you refer to, and I hope you will be pleased to confirm and adopt, what I shall recommend should be done in the different licenses. —

You again say! — "It is not explained in any of your reports, for what reason you gave licenses to Mr W. B. Woolland, extending beyond the time to which you limited others"?

In reply to this, I have the honor to report, that I done so, with the best and purest intentions, in the welfare and protection of the fisheries, covered by the said license, and as I have already explained the reason why, and wherefore in my letter to you of the 25th of May instant. — I, however, have now much pleasure in returning Mr W. B. Woollands, license, which he surrenders most willingly, so that you may cancel it. — He never Seine fished, and for the pike gill net fishing he carried on for a short time under this license I beg most respectfully to recommend that Mr W. B. Woolland be not charged any license fee, as he was always ready and willing by night and day to aid and assist me, and did assist me in capturing gill nets illegally set in

Ashbridges Bay, . —

Should a man as Woollard is, should he always upheld by the fisheries department; he was very much needed in the locality of Ashbridges bay, and would still act, if empowered to do so, by the department at a small salary of $30. a year. —

And you say; "Having done this, it devolves on you to arrange for this surrender, unless you can assign some other reason, for which this dept can act besides the arbitrary exercise of power, to cancel a man's license regularly issued and held in good faith?" —

In reply to all this, I may here state for your information that I am at all times ready and responsible for all the acts of my life in connection with the fisheries. — But I would respectfully recommend that much caution is absolutely necessary, and should be duly considered and observed in dealing with those fisheries, for so many years licensed to men David Ward and Pat Gray of Toronto Island; who have always paid well for the fishing privileges they enjoy. — The clamour of News-papers scribblers, so notoriously false, should never be relied on, and for my own part, I have repeatedly gone and endeavoured to find the small fish so wrecklessly drawn by Seines on Ashbridges bay, and Toronto Bay, as per News paper reports; but I always failed in doing so, — So much for the false, lying, damnable lies and falsehoods of some of the Toronto News-papers. —

And in conclusion you say; "If these licenses can be justly and fairly disposed of, the dept is willing that the arrangement described in the accompanying letter shall go into force at once?"

In reply to this, I beg most respectfully to report, that I cannot agree altogether, with what you propose to carry into force. The Bend, in consequence of being damaged by the Corporation of Toronto, &c. dumping so many loads of dredged material, mud and stone taken from the Harbour, in to its immediate vicinity in the Bay, Seine fishing there has been very seriously damaged and injured, so that another place near

the life Boat, Boat house, south of the gap, in the Bay also, must be provided. —

The Toronto Island fishermen are a class of people, who do not care to be annoyed, and the license issued to Mr Edward Staulan, at the Staulan point, Toronto Island, has been extensively commented upon by them. —

I will insert in the revised list, what I think should be done, and established, and hoping same will meet your approbation. —

Hon: Minister,
Yr. Yr. Yc.,

I have, Yc,
John W Kerr
F. O.

Sir,

30. May 1881,

I have the Honor to report, that the only object I had in view, in fixing a limit in the Don and Humber, where no set net, or gill nets, should be fished or used any more, was, that no Nets of any Kind are ever used to my Knowledge, above Todmordan, on the Don, or above Hawlands Mills, at Dundas street on the Humber River. — And with due respect,

Sa. W. F. Whitcher Esqre
Commissioner of fisheries,
Ottawa. —

I Have Yc,
John W Kerr
F. O.

My dear Sir, Will you please find your license herewith, please Write and tell me who are now fishing at Frenchmans Bay. Yours Sincerely,
Mr Geo: Marks,
Frenchmans Bay,
Dunbarton P.O.
Ontario

J W Kerr, F. O.
30. May 1881,

My dear Sir,

Will you please send herewith Game Stock licenses, - vizt

1. Henry Becker, Walsingham, 2. Henry Osborne, Walsingham,
3. John Countryman, do, 4, Henry Brandon Jr. do. —
5. James Becker, do. — 6, George Crampan, do. —
7. Denis Brook, do. — 8, Colin La-Fortune, do. —
9, Wallace Myers, Stoughton, 10, John Tack, Walsingham,

And please deliver the same. —

Ewan Bowers Esqre
J. Grandair, Port Royal,

Yrs. &c J W Kerr J.o,
31, May 1881.

My dear Sir, - Will you please send herewith, three fishing licenses, vizt 1. Henry Logan, Chippewa. —
2, John Downey, do. —
3, John Aldous, do. —

Will you please keep your own, and deliver Logan's, and Downey's for me, and oblige, Yrs &c.
31. May 1881. J W Kerr J.o,

Mr Mansfield, Will you please send your Game Licence for 1881. - who are fishing under you. —
Hamilton, 31. May 1881. Yrs &c, J W Kerr, J.o,

Mr Woolland. - please send your Boat license for 1881. — Yrs &c, J W Kerr, J.o,
Hamilton, 31. May 1881. —

Mr Smith, please send your Licence herewith for 1881. — Yours &c, J W Kerr, J.o
31. May 1881.

postages 25^cts

Private!

My dear Sir, — Hamilton, Ontario, 31. May 1881,

A copy of the petition, has been sent back to me, to report upon, and which I will favourably report upon. — —

Please on receipt of this! telegraph me, if Mr Plumb, M.P., is in Niagara! and I will come down at once and have him write for you also! —

How is the fishing? — Have you got Mrs Cantwell, to smoke the White fish for me; I want about 4 dozen for to send to Ottawa. —

Keep every thing about you! as a North of Ireland man, would say to yourself! and with best wishes for your success, and warm regards to you and partner, believe me; Yours, &c, J.W. Kerr, M.D.,

Mr James Cantwell,
Fisherman,
Niagara,

P.S. I will bring down your file not forgetting with me, when I come. Yrs J.W. Kerr M.D.

My dear Sir,

A great discovery made on B. Beach in L. Ontario last night, a striped sea Bass, was caught. — I bought it for 75¢, and sent it to Ottawa, to-day. — Is Mr Plumb at Niagara? — I have the plan all right now! many White fish: — I will come down some day this week, I want you to smoke some 4. dozen white fish, for me to send to Ottawa. My Kind regards to Mrs Elliot, and the children.

Keep the matter on the other page, between this and yourself,

Yours, &c, J.W. Kerr, M.D.,
Hamilton, Ont.
1st June 1881. —

Mr Thos Elliot,
Niagara.

paid 75¢ for Bass, and 25¢

Sir,

31. May 1881.

I have just received, the application of Mr Lot Spencer, of Port Royal, in the township of Walsingham, and County of Norfolk, dated the 18th March last, addressed to W. F. Whitcher Esqre Commissioner of Fisheries, Ottawa, soliciting, and applying for permission, and the privilege of fishing a Fyke Net, in the Upper Marsh, and Inner Bay, between Port Rowan, and Port Royal, Lake Erie to report upon:

In reply, I have the Honor to report and recommend that the permission asked for, by Mr Lot Spencer, for himself and others, loyal subjects, and bitizens of Norfolk, be granted under Li= censes, from the department. –

And in answering Mr Spencer's application if you will please direct him to apply to me, I will have much pleasure in re= commending him and his friends accordingly. – There are abundance of fish in the extensive waters referred to; and its affords me much pleasure in recommending to you an old ex= fishery Guardian who acted well under me some years past, for you to consider his application favourably now; under the restrictions of the Fisheries Act, Orders in Council Rules and regulations. –

And with due respect,

W. F. Whitcher Esqre, Commissioner of Fisheries, Ottawa. –

I have, &c

John Kerr F.O.

My dear Sir. – I beg to send you the copy of a telegraph, I received today from Mr S. P. Bauset, of the Fisheries department, Ottawa. –

Copy, Ottawa, 31. May 1881. –

To, Jno: W. Kerr, – "Gives Names, and address of reliable fish= "ermen, at Niagara; from whom traders here, can order White "fish?" – I may here state for your information, that I gave your Name, and address, and that of James Cantwell, Niagara. – Yours Sincerely, J W Kerr F.O.

Mr Thos: Elliott, Niagara.

Hamilton, Ont. 1. June 1881.

Sir,

31. May 1881.

I have the Honor to receive your favour, stating: "The Fishery Overseer at Leamington, on Lake Erie, writes us, that great quantities of all kinds of fish are dying in that part." - "Have you any thing of the kind, this year on Lake Ontario?" -

In reply, I have the honor to report, that as regards my division of Lake Ontario, from my personal observations, on the 23rd instant, when I passed from Niagara to Toronto, by the Chicora, and saw dead and dying alewives, or gaspereau, or inferior shad, there are none others; please refer to my report of 18. May instant, also on this subject. -

As regards great quantities of dead fish in Lake Erie, at Leamington; I am almost certain, when I express to you my belief, that all those dead fish there, have been thrown out, of the pot of pound, Nets. - We have had very hot weather, warm enough to kill fish in the pounds lately, and instead of taking those dead fish to land and bury them, they are dumped out into the Lake by pound Net fishermen, employees, and are floated about according to the direction of the wind. - My pound Net fisherman, (bury them,) bring this dead fish on shore and bury them. - I learned something at Leamington, about dead fish in pounds in 1872, when you sent me around there. - Moon eyes, would be in the majority of dead fish seen at this season of the year, as they are valueless.

I consider a good smart Circular addressed by you, to Fishery Overseers, as regards the great destruction of the fish, by pound Net fishermen, is all important and would have a good effect. And with Much respect,

I Have He

J W Kerr F. O.

W. F. Whitcher Esqre
C. of Fisheries
Ottawa. -

My dear Sir — Will you be pleased to find herewith, Hooks, and Night line, licenses for Messrs Nelson La Fontaine, and Wm Crampon, of Walsingham, for you to deliver from Yours, &c,

Hamilton, Cuto^r Oscar Bonnes. J.P. John W. Kerr, J.P.

1. June 1881. Port Royal.

Sir, 1.st June 1881,

1st. Yours of the 30, ultimo received. — stating that "On act^t of the contravention of "the fisheries Act, I will be compelled to institute proceedings against not less th^n 20, different "parties, some for violation of the sabbath, others for fishing without Lease or Licence". —

Will you be pleased to furnish me, with the Names in full, the Residence, the date of the Offence; the Offence committed by each person charged, and where the offence was committed, and I will then instruct you how to proceed.

2d. "The fishery Act, I have is dated 1868, and as there is some dif= "ference of opinion amongst Justices of the Peace in this locality, con= "cerning the Fishery laws, if it is convenient, I would thank you "for a Copy of the Act now in use and all information, and papers necessary "for these prosecutions". —

There is now at present, no fishery law in force, but the Act of 1868, of which you say, you are already in possession of a copy. — It is of no importance about differences existing amongst J.P.s of the peace, &, &, &c. I have no information nor papers to send you about prosecutions of which I know so very little, nothing but what your letter before me at present contains, &c, &c, —

3rd. "Would I have the power myself, as Warden, to be tribunal "for wile I lay information before a J.P.". —

I understand you to say; Mr Burgham, appointed you a Fishery Guardian to act under his own Orders, and so there your power would terminate. I found you, and continued your services, because I find you useful. — Besides a good fellow!. —

4. "Have I, any authority to employ any Counsel, to assist me, "in these prosecutions", —

None whatever; neither have I, except by the sanction of the department, who can themselves only apply to The Hon; The Minister of Justice, Ottawa, to appoint Counsel where necessary. —

5, "If I am allowed such privilege, kindly let me know, as I would prefer some assistance in that way." —

England expects every man will do his duty, and surely to God, gratified as you are and will be with Credible witnesses whose names in each case, please send me with list of offenders". what assistance do you need beyond the Justice of your case. — —

You have now all I have at present to say on this subject. — And believe me, yours, &c. &c.,

Owen Bowers Esqre J.W. Kerr, J.O.

J. Guardian, Port Royal. —

N.B. Should any person or persons make application for to fish a Fyke Net, — please send them to me, and I will forward them to the department, Ottawa. —

Mr Lot Spencer, in an application he made to the department, Ottawa, said he applied to you, to know if he could fish a Fyke Net, and that you told him, he could not fish one. — Hence Why! I write you as above. —

Yrs &c. J.W. Kerr, J.O.

Monday, 30. May 1881.

At Owen B. Beach found the fishermen, all [illegible] fishing. Gave F. N. Covey, Ben: Folds, Dan: McGuyne, John Taaffe, Alex Rollo, David Fitch, Mort: Covey and Jonathan Covey, their licenses for 1881, they had no Money! — Ed: Kerr, with me. —

Heard from Mrs Perry, that Big Jim, had written a letter or card to Dick Taafe; saying the man who had his gill nets seized was blind of an eye, and for him to blind him of the other, and he would pay him for doing so. — —

went out at 4.30, p.m., came in at 1. a.m. on May 30,

44 Bs, 2.00 ¢, Ned 1.¢ —

Sir,

3. June 1881.

I have the Honor to report for your information that during the sitting of the late House of Commons, I was led to believe, by a letter I received from Mr Kilburt, M. P. for the City of Hamilton, who stated he applied to you, that some Kinds of Fish fry might be sent to Puslinch Lake. — and from a glowing account furnished and published in Hamilton Spectator, I was led to believe myself, it was about to be done a little while ago! —

By the attached letter herewith, from Mr John Davidson of the City of Guelph, it appears nothing has been done, thus far! in this direction. —

The setting apart of Puslinch Lake, &c. &c. &c. for three years, availeth not much, if a supply of fish, is not placed therein. — "It is public Government waters."

If there is no One else to do it! will you be pleased to allow me to assist in the matter. —

And please refer to my report to the department, dated 12. November 1880, On this subject. —

And with due respect, I Have &c.

J W Kerr J. P.

W. F. Whitcher Esqre
Com^r of Fisheries,
Ottawa. —

Stationery. 25^c

Thursday, 2. June 1881. —

On B. Beach, measured all the White fish Seines! — Dan. McGuires, Ben. Folds, and F. H. Corys' Seines were small as compared with, Jacques, Rollos', Fitches and Mott, and Jonathan Corey's. — Heard that Mrs Eliza McGuire, was talking and complaining about the pound fished by Gilbert, and about the Niagara fishermen fishing 3" inch Centres a lie and Jackson, [illegible] net, and White fish gill net on small reels, on F. N. Corys Lake ground, he has no licence to fish the same, went out 1. p. m. came in at 7. p. m. Miles 24. 844 B. 2.00 with me; heard same story again from Mrs Perry about Big Jim, —

Sir, 1. June 1881,

I have the honor to state for your information

Monday. 20. June 1881. –

At Niagara. found all regular, – Met Mr Jas Longhurst, and appointed to meet him on Tuesday Morning, and examine the Ferry Fence, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 5.30. p. m. Miles 48, S4 B. 1.50, Ry fare $1.00, dinner 40¢, Tea and Bed 50¢, Buss 15¢.

Tuesday, 21, June 1881,

In Niagara all day. – permitted Fishermen, to set out on Saturday, before 6. p. m. – and not to fish up until after 6. a. m, on Monday Morning. – Board $1.00 –

Wednesday 22, June 1881. –

At Niagara St Catherines and Hamilton. Mr Thos Elliot paid me $5. for Robert John Allan, received $4, from Mr John Wadsworth on 21, instant, for and on acct of his license at Queenston Heights, went out at 10. a. m. came in at 5.30. p. m. Miles 48 – Stage 50¢. Breakfast 25¢, dinner 40¢, Buss 15¢, Ry fare $1.00 ¢, 2.30

Friday 24. June 1881,

On B. Bch. found all right, went and came back by City of Hamilton, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 7. p. m. Miles 26. S4 & B. $2.00¢, dinner 35¢.

Saturday 25, June 1881. –

At Toronto, and Toronto Island, to enquire about Mr Pat: Gray, fisherman, reported to be drowned, saw Mrs Gray, and Inspector Wm Stuart, heard all that was then known about Mr Gray, went out at 5.30. a. m. came in at 7. p. m. Miles 96. Ry fare $2. dinner 35¢.

S4 & B. 75¢. –

Tuesday. 28. June 1881.

At Winona, found all right, the take of White fish was good, 65 caught by Bill and Thomas Stand, in the firmsly range and 16 on Ballfleet range, all the fish appeared to be swimming from West to East, and were so caught in the gill Nets, went out at 5. a. m. came in at 8½ p. m. Miles about 36. H & B. $2.00, Breakfast 50¢.

Sent 6. W. fish to Mr Whitcher. E. charges 90¢.

Monday. 4. July 1881.

Off to Toronto, thence to the Island, and from there to Toronto, found all regular, went out at 8.30. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. Miles 72. Ry fare $1.20, Boat 50¢, dinner 25¢, bed 25¢, Made Known to Niagara fishermen, the Commissioners Orders about small, young, and immature white fish. —

Tuesday. 5. July 1881. —

At Niagara, Queenston, Niagara falls. Fort Erie, and Ridgeway point Abino, and near Shisters point. went out at 10, a, m, came in at 7. p. m. at Fort Erie. Ry fare, $ 2.10, Breakfast, dinner, tea and bed $ 1. H & B $1. Miles 70. paid Tommy Elliot $ 5, for Board. —

Wednesday 6. July 1881.

At Fort Erie and Niagara, went out at 8.30. a. m, came in at 10, a. m. Miles 40, Ry fare, half of $80¢ — Breakfast, tea, dinner and bed $ 1.00¢,

Held a Consultation with the Fishermen, about the sale of their White fish and pickerel. —

Thursday. 7. July 1881.

At Niagara. St Catherines and Hamilton, went out at 10. a. m, came in at 6. p. m. Miles 50. Ry fare $1.20, stage $ 1.00, dinner 40¢, — Buss 15¢,

Private,

My dear Sir, - I replied to your letter of the 30, ultimo, on the 1st instant, I am glad I done so, as I did!. I dont think it would look well for either you or I! to go back and rake up Mr Bingham's short comings. - I was not appointed to do that!!. And so the matter so far as Mr B. is concerned had better be dropped, dont you think so yourself?. —

Your duty now, and mine is to improve the condition of things, and I do really think, you are doing so. - Since I saw you at Pt. Point, the next day, I went down as far as Nanticoke, Selkirk, and Rainham, and it is the same old story disgraceful, or stories told over again. —

I dont care a jig, for any thing Bingham has said or may say about me, I am perfectly independent of him in all things, and so, I will say no more. —

See those 8 persons, and try if you cannot have them conform with the law: - instead of hauling them up before a Magistrate, and inflicting fines and costs, which they may not be able to pay. —

The Magistrates under section 16, of the F. Act, have discretionary power in all those cases, so be careful and guarded. —

If they are fishing hard by or Nets without a license, serve them instantly, and you will soon bring them to terms. But dont inflict on them more than they are able to bear. Where are the permits you promised to send me. - Yours Truly John Walker F.O.,

Owen Bowers Esqr F.I., Pt Royal, 3. June 1881. —

P.S. Whenever a man pays in money, pending the receipt of his li= you may permit him to fish. - Yours J. Walker, F.O.

Saturday. 4. June 1881,

At Niagara, to see and arrange fishing matters, and stop fishing on Sundays, - went out at 9. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. Miles about 48, - Ry fare $1, dinner 40¢, 544 B. $2.00¢ tea and bed 50¢ and 15¢ $4.05.

Sunday 5. June 1881,

At Queenston, saw Joe Gabriel Jr and Sr John Wadsworth, Jim Wynne and Harry Shepperd, delivered their licenses, no Money yet, went out at

My dear Snook,

I write to tell you, that the plan of Survey, made by Mr F. W. Walsh, P.L. Surveyor, of Stations Nos 1, 2, 3 and 4, on the I. point, beach in Cape Mary under my direction and reported to the Commissioner of Fisheries, Ottawa, has been approved of. —

I have written Mr Jas: W. McCall, F. Guardian, St Williams, to go down, and put you in possession. — Do you want any twine, and what kind to enlarge your Seine, dont feel any delicacy in the matter, you must go now to work, and get up again. dont allow those people to run you down, stand your ground and uphold your rights. —

McCall will read the Ministers decision for you, so be prudent industrious, and sober henceforth. I had a hard struggle, but I have got you, your rights much sooner than I expected. —

And I dont think any of the others need be dissatisfied. —

If they will not keep within bounds, the buoys must be put up, you shall have your rights, and I will maintain you in them.

Mr W. Snook,
Fisherman,
I. Point.

Yours truly
J W Kerr F.O.,
St, June 1881,

8.30, a. m, came in at 3. p, m, Big Jim with me. — 54 ¢, 1.
Miles 16. Breakfast, dinner tea and bed off 1. —

Monday. 6. June 1881,

At the two and One Mile Creek, with young Woodruff, to show him how Cantwells New ground was to be ranged, went out at 8.30. a. m, came in at 11. a, m, attended Seine hauling, — at Old Fort, and the One. Miles 12,
Breakfast, dinner, tea and bed off 1. - Gang Saw, 40¢.

Tuesday 7. June 1881. —

At Niagara, St Catharines & Hamilton, went out at 10. a. m, came in at 4.30, p. m. Miles 48, Stage 75¢, Breakfast 25¢, dinner 40, Buss 4. 35¢, Ry fare off 1. — 2,75

Telegraph 38¢,
Stationy. 49¢, 30¢,

Thursday, 9. June 1881. –

On B. beach, measured Wm: McGuyne and Wm: Folds Lewis Mat, found it very close, however the 2" inch square block, passed through it, went out at 10. a.m. came in at 7. p.m. Miles 26, St. and Buggy $ 2.00. –

Monday, 13. June 1881. –

On B. beach, David Fitch paid $ 15, Alex: Rollo, $ 10, Dick Jaffe, $ 5, and Mrs Anna Sherbenal $ 5, dollars, – for licence fees for 1881. – See my report of this day, to W. F. Whitaker Esqre Commissioner of Fisheries, Ottawa. – went out at 5. a.m. came in at 11.30, a.m, thence to Hamilton, and got Bank draft for $ 35, dollars, for Receiver General, came in at 4.30. p.m. Miles 24, St, and Buggy. $ 2.00 –

Bob Hall, was very insulting, he is however out of his mind... He must be civil. – – –

Thursday, 16, June 1881,

At Wenona, found all right, went out 5. a.m, Came in at 2. p.m, Miles 36, St. & B. 2.25

Friday. 8. July 1881.

At Toronto, and Toronto Island, to enquire about Pat. Gray's death, went out at 9. a.m. came in at 7. p.m. – Miles 48. Ry fare $ 2.00 –, dinner tea and bed 75¢. Boat fare 20¢. –

Saturday, 9. July 1881.

At Toronto Island, Toronto and Hamilton, went out at 12. Noon, came in at 5. p.m, Miles 48. Breakfast & dinner 50¢. St & B – 1.50

Wednesday, 13 July 1881. –

In Toronto, to see Mr Gray, about the Fishers on the Island, and other business, went out at 9. a.m, Came in at 6. p.m. Miles 88, Ry fare $ 2, dinner 25¢ Cab 35¢. No. 6.

Tuesday, 19 - July 1881.

Gen B. Beach, to see about Grand Stand for Races, — went and saw Mr S.L. Bastain, Boat Builder, and William Massie, on the subject matter, went out at 9. a.m. came in at 8. p.m. Miles 34. S.H.& B. 2.00 $ dinner 50 ¢. — Jack Teafe paid me, 5 $. on acct of licence fee. — Gave the fishermen permission to catch Herring, with Herring Seines. —

Saturday, 23rd July 1881.

Off to Guelph, and saw the Mayor, George Sleeman Esqre a little Prince, and John Davidson Esqre about Jny for Bushnich Lake. — Vc. Vc — see my reports, Vc. Vc. Vc. went out at 8. a.m. came in at 7.30. p.m. Miles 104. Ry fare $ 2.35 ¢ dinner. Vc 1.50 $ ¢ $3.85¢

Friday, 29. July 1881. —

At St Catherines, Ten Mile Creek, and Niagara, Tom Reid — had no Money for me. went out at 8. a.m. came in at 2. p.m. Miles 48. Ry fare $ 1. dinner tea and bed 75 ¢. S.H.& B. 1.00 ¢ x 2 $. $3.75¢.

Saturday 30. July 1881. —

At Niagara. St Catherines and Hamilton, went out at 10. a.m. came in at 5. p.m. Miles 48. Stage 1.50, Breakfast 25 ¢. R. fare $ 1. —

Tuesday 2. August 1881. —

At Port Dover, and Turkey point, met Owen Bowers there paid him $ 35; he took a statement for me from Wm Snooks, Jas. Low, paid me $ 5, went out at 6. a.m. came in at 6.30. p.m. Miles about 75, Ry fare $ 1.10, dinner 25 ¢. Horse & Buggy $ 2. Tea & Bed 50 ¢.

Wednesday 3. August 1881.

At Dover Simcoe, Jarvis, and Home, saw Mr William Wallace, Mt. p. see my report per Snooks; called to see Mr W. p. Innis, went out at 6. a.m. came in at 12.30. p.m. Miles 46. Ry fare $ 1.60 ¢ breakfast 25 ¢, extras 75 ¢, heard John C. Allan, had out a third O. Nt.

Thursday 11. August 1881.

At Clarksons. Port Credit. Toronto and Toronto Island. – got $ 10. from H. & C. Reid, – saw C. Hurse and Mrs Gray, on the Island, went out at 5.35. a.m. came in at 6.30. p.m. Miles 90. My fare $ 2, dinner 25 ¢, Boat 10 ¢. H & B $ 1. –

Saw Mr J. Lackie, on Front st, see my Report. – of 12. August, in letter Book. –

Wednesday, 17. August 1881.

On B. beach. Mortimer Corey, paid me 5 ¢, and Jonathan Corey $ 3, – Alex: Rollo, gave me a Salmon 3 pounds weight, he caught in a Placed to, J. gill net, went out at 9. a.m. came in at 7. p.m. Miles 26. H & B. 2.50 ¢.

Friday 19. August 1881.

On B. Beach found all right, went out at 8 a.m. to the G. W. Ry station, thence to Beach, and return, Miles 26. Came in at 12.20. p.m. H & Waggon $ 2.00 ¢

Monday. 22. August 1881.

At Winona, B. Beach, and Hamilton, went out at 4.45. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. Miles 40. – Sent Basket of fish to W. J. Whitcher, Ottawa, paid charges 75 ¢, H & B 2.00

Postages 50 ¢ and Stationery 50 ¢

Tuesday. 23. August 1881. – – –

At Toronto, and Toronto Island, found all right. – Mrs Gray. told me, Mr Stellwell was there, and was going on at a great rate. – He got charge of the County of York, bordering on the Lake, between the Humber and Etiland Creek. – – – application for licences must be made to him in future. – enquired for 2 licences I had seized at Thousand Bay, and what Mr Kerr, used to do, and did he stop at her place; wanted Mrs Gray to give him the yearly licence. – went out at 10. a.m. came in at 3. p.m. Miles 48. My fare $ 1.30. Boat 10 ¢.

dinner, tea and bed 75¢. –

⊙ Wednesday, 24, August 1881. –

At Toronto and Niagara, found all regular at Niagara fish net fishing for White fish is good. – took over with me Lewis, the best one seized at Frenchmans Bay, gave it up to Big Jim, to overhaul, and put New Centre in it. –

Examined lot, and New fence, saw Longhurst, about the cost, received his aft, and bills, – also saw Mr J. B. Olumb, M. P. – who promised to write Mr W. J. Whitcher, the Commissioner of Fisheries, Ottawa, for money to rig up a Hatchery. &c, went out at 5.30, a. m; came in at 4. p. m Miles 48, Boat 40¢, Steamer $1.65¢, Board & bed $1.

⊙ Thursday, 25, August 1881. –

At Niagara and Queenston, saw Gabriel & Son, James Sheppard, Harry Sheppard and Mrs – Harry paid me $5, on aft of license. – Joe Gabriel Jr, sent me $3, – on aft of spearing. – Heard that Winfield Scott, of Lewiston, wanted to see me. – all quiet, no fishing. Harry Sheppard told me, he caught a 16. pound Salmon, last May. – a splendid fish, a short chunkey fish, broad on the back, and very deep. – He thought it was a Salmon Trout, until Morning came, when he saw it was a genuine Salmon. – Went out at 9.40, a. m, came in at 4. p. m, Miles 20, Ry fare 30¢, – Telegraph 20¢, – Breakfast dinner, tea and bed $1. – H. & B. .50¢. –

⊙ Friday, 26. August 1881, – –

at Niagara and Hamilton; saw Peter Hath, at Port Dalhousie, at St Catharines; went out at 9.30, a. m; Came in at 5.50, p. m, Miles 48, Stage 75¢, Breakfast and dinner 75¢, – Ry fare $1.00¢ H & B. $1. –

Stationery, 25¢.

O. Monday 3. Oct. 1881.

Off to Toronto, and Toronto Island, went out at 11. a. m. came in at 6. p. m. Miles 88. Ry $2. Boat 10¢, dinner 50¢,

Friday, 16, Sep: 1881.

⊙ at Niagara. found all right, went out 9. a. m, came in at 4. p. m, Miles 48. H & B. $2. Ry fare $1. dinner tea and bed $1. —

Sat. 17. Sep: 1881. —

⊙ at Niagara, St Davids, and Two Mile pond, Miles 24. H & B. board $1. – went out at 10. a. m. came in at 2.30. p. m. ——

Sunday 18. Sep: 1881. —

⊙ At Niagara, went across and found Robert Sherlock fishing in American Waters, he went there from Town of Niagara, apprised him what the Sabbath law was, &c. and advised him to go home, which he did. Capt William Milloy, Geo Avery and John Butler, were also there fishing. – went out at 10. a. m. came in at 11.30. a. m, Miles 2, Boat 50¢, Board $1.00.

Monday 19, Sep: 1881,

⊙ Went before Wm Kirby Esqre J. P. and lodged complaint against said persons – Trial at 4. p. m. evidence heard, adjourned until 9. a. m. on Tuesday, Miles 4, Board $1. —

Stationery 50¢ & Telegraph, 50¢

Tuesday 20, Sep: 1881,

⊙ at Niagara, St Catherines and Hamilton, first attended before Magistrate, Wm Taylor, proved Case against Milloy and Avery. and Robt Sherlock, pleaded guilty, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 6. p. m. Miles 48. Ry fare $1. Stage 75¢ Board $1, –

Stamps 50¢

Stationery 30¢, P. Stamps. 25¢

Monday 26, Sep: 1881. –

⊙ Our B. beach. F. N. Corey $5. & D. McGuyne $6. paid the sums opposite their Names, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 3. p. m. Miles 24. H & B. $2. – Fred: with me,

Monday 10. October 1881, –

X ✝ ⊙. See back to last page. Off to Port Dover – House on private business to Turkey Pt and back to Port Dover, went out at 6. a. m. came in 10. a. m. Miles 38. Ry fare $2.20, dinner tea & bed $0.75¢ F. Jackson with me to Turkey Pt. –

Tuesday 11. Oct: 1881. — saw

⊙. off to Rainham, saw John S. Allan, went out at 9. a. m. came in at 3. p. m. see my reports of 13 Oct. Miles 52. H V B 2. Board $1.00

Wednesday 12. Oct. 1881.

⊙. Down to Hamilton, went out at 10. a. m. came in at 12. Miles 38. Ry – Board 75¢ 75¢, B & H.

The Halifax Commission.

The Boston *Commercial Advertiser* contains the following letter, but does not mention how it was obtained, probably from one of the Uni ed States counsel:—

HALIFAX, 25th Feb. 1878.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, from your department, of a copy of a letter from Mr. F. C. Ford to the Earl of Derby, acknowledging the services of those gentlemen, at Halifax, from whom he says he received the most valuable assistance in the proceedings of the Fisheries Commission. He states, I observe ,that he does not desire to speak of the services of counsel retained, on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, "notably those of Hon. Mr. Whiteway, Mr. S. R. Thomson, and Hon. L. H. Davies," as he presumes their services will be brought to the notice of that Government by the Governor-General and the Governor of Newfoundland; but "he begs more especially to speak of the advantages he derived through the services of Mr. Edward Miall, Mr. Whitcher, and Mr. John Galt."

In that letter Mr. Miall (a clerk in the Civil Service) is mentioned "in terms of the highest recognition," as an English gentleman holding a high position in the Revenue Department, and the success of, the most important part, (as it has been regarded) of the British case, is attributed to him. Mr. Whitcher, the Commissioner of Fisheries—the highest office pertaining exclusively to the Fisheries under the Canadian Government—the gentleman, I understand, who recommended the selection of and instructed Mr. Miall, is briefly recognized for his intimate acquaintance with the subject and his long official experience. Of Mr. John Galt, the son and Secretary of the Arbitrator appointed by Her Majesty's Government, Mr. Ford says, "his best thanks are due for the zealous manner in which he offered his services and for the marked ability with which he performed such duties as he had occasion to entrust to him."

The letter of the "British Agent" has been published in the newspapers, and I am aware that it has led many persons entirely astray as to the part Mr. Ford performed, practically, in the important investigation. Speaking as junior counsel I desire to say that I was not retained or instructed by Mr. Forde. Before I had any knowledge of his connection with the case I was requested by the Minister of Justice, in the year 1875, "to act in conjunction with Mr. Doutre, Q. C., of Montreal, and Mr. Thomson, Q. C., of St. John, as Counsel on the part of the Government of Canada." In affording assistance in collecting information, drafting important documents, presenting oral argument and examining witnesses, I regretted the necessity of acting at variance with the expressed views of Mr Ford. After repeated interference which —unintentionally no doubt on his part— caused much annoyance, it became my duty, considering his entire inexperience as to the principles and method of judicial investigation, respectfully to dispense with his suggestions. And when it became necessary for Mr. Doutre, with your sanction, peremptorily to over-rule Mr. Ford as to the management of the closing argument, his dissatisfaction at my acquiescence in that step on the part of the senior counsel was not concealed from me, and I was well aware from Mr. Ford's language on more than one occasion that he keenly felt the weight of Mr. Doutre's independence, and I was aware he had, as regards one of the Canadian Counsel, a settled intention of doing him all the injury in his power officially to inflict. Previous to this instance, however, a groundless cause of annoyance to the British Agent occurred which I may also cite to explain the marked omission in his letter of any mention of the senior counsel. After Dr. Fortin, who had under instructions from Mr. Doutre, Mr. Thomson and myself, at Ottawa, selected a large number of important witnesses in the Province of Quebec, arrived with them in Halifax, Mr. Ford, for some unaccountable reason, was determined on contriving to send them immediately home. Perhaps no man in Canada, connected with the enquiry, was better fitted by education and experience for that selection than the late Speaker of the Quebec Parliament, Dr. Fortin, and it was only through your urgent and repeated requests that he undertook the duty. It cannot be wondered at, therefore, that he was not pleased to hear, that through a want of knowledge of the subject, his country should be deprived of the information which he had taken so much trouble to collect. And when Mr. Doutre warmly and successfully insisted on the examination of these witnesses before the Commission, although the result proved the wisdom of his decision, Mr. Ford did not cease to show his annoyance.

It will not be understood that I desire to question the propriety of assigning the foremost place as regards the legal part of the enquiry to my esteemed friend, Hon. Mr. Whiteway, who acted on behalf of Newfoundland, of whose ability and professional courtesy I was deeply sensible throughout. Neither am I to question the compliment paid to other counsel, or the talents or very high position of Mr. Miall. Considering, however, that the eminent United States Agent, Mr. Foster, forcibly remonstrated against our withholding him from the witness stand to corroborate the statistical argument used on behalf of Canada, on the untenable ground urged by Mr. Foster, that these figures were, in his opinion, furnished by Mr. Miall, I think the act of Mr. Ford, in singling out for conspicuous attention the authorship in his view of any part of the argument of leading counsel may be pronounced unjustifiable.

Concerning Mr. Whitcher, I deem it a simple act of justice to bear testimony that almost all the information and argument in the case was—subject to your management and control throughout—arranged and supplied by him from the first, while Mr. Ford contributed no assistance except in copying papers and in cordially performing subordinate duties for you. I heartily concur, therefore, in the admission of Mr. Ford that Mr. Whitcher's experience was "of high value during the progress of the enquiry," and I am sure all the counsel would have been glad if Her Majesty's Agent had not permitted personal feeling, which he did not conceal in Halifax, to prompt him in his attempt to impair the reputation, justly won in every part of the Dominion, by the Commissioner of Fisheries, in connection with the fortunate result of the investigation.

I trust I may be adjudged with many others in error, in attributing to Mr. Ford the appearance of an ill-contrived and ungenerous sneer, in contrasting in his letter to the Foreign Minister, the "long official experience" of Mr. Whitcher, and the "marked ability" of the young gentleman—a minor I am informed —who acted as Private Secretary to the "British Commissioner." Right or wrong as to the motive of British Agent, touching the fact I must be permitted emphatically to repel the thoughtless imputation that any of those ho had the responsible duty of managing the case on behalf of Canada, sought or obtained any assistance whatever—even the most remote— in the investigation, from the Private Secretary of the distinguished Canadian appointed by Her Britannic Majesty to act in a judicial capacity, and I am sure no one will more readily join in that disavowal than Mr. John Galt himself.

There are other circumstances concerning the recent enquiry suggested by the letter of the British agent to which I would take the liberty of drawing your attention, did I not consider the present stage of the Fisheries question an unseasonable time for their discussion.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
R. L. WEATHERBE.

To the HON. A. J. SMITH,
Minister of Marine & Fisheries,
Ottawa.

Ottawa H. Paris
M. June 1878

Gilbert Patrick, Sr., Gilbert Patrick, Jr., Caleb Patrick, and Lester Scollard were on Friday found guilty before Chas. Gilchrist, fishery overseer for Northumberland, of spearing fish in the River Trent, and fined $50 each and costs. The complaint was laid by Overseer Wilkins and Horace Wert.

Mr. PLUMB said there had been a great deal of complaint at Niagara among the fishermen with reference to the regulations connected with the catching of whitefish. While recommending that the difficulties should be looked into, he would also suggest that steps should be taken to deal with that class of men who, though living on the American side, fish in Canadian waters during prohibited seasons. He also pointed out that shad had been taken for the first time in Lake Ontario. Shad was a very prolific fish, and would no doubt take the place of the whitefish, which were dying out.

Sir ALBERT SMITH asked the hon. gentleman to communicate with his Department on the subject.

Mr. PLUMB sad he would do so.

Mr. MITCHELL said he believed by a convention, which might be held by mutual agreement, arrangements might be made for the protection of fish in streams that were common to both the United States and Canada.

In reply to Mr. Davies,

Sir ALBERT SMITH said it was the intention to deposit some young fry this season in the waters of Prince Edward Island.

THE FIRST OF THE SEASON.—To-day Mr. John Davis opened at his stall in the fish market, a large quantity of fresh white fish and salmon trout, recently received from Goderich. They apppeared to meet with ready sale at 10c. per lb.

Catfish and Suckers.

To the Editor of the SPECTATOR.

SIR,—By some persons catfish and suckers are considered great delicacies. I beg to say, however, that I don't care for them in or out of season, but I saw both catfish and suckers at one of the fish stalls this morning, and why the sanguinary catfish and the pensive sucker should be abroad in the land at this inconvenient season is something that has bothered my mind ever since.

From observations in more youthful days I was under the impression that the catfish was wont to bury himself in the mud during the winter and remain torpid, possibly sucking his paws, and that where the sucker went was something "no fellow could find out." At any rate, so far as I have known, both catfish and suckers have kept themselves scarce until the spring sunshine warmed up the cockles of their little hearts and put new life into their little tails. But as I stood and gazed at those mudcats and suckers I asked: Are those last year's mudcats? No, just caught this morning, was the reply. I had a good mind to say the man lied, but he seemed to be a stall-wart follower of the fishy trade and so I didn't. I only went away and pondered on the uncertainty of the luxuries indulged in by a large and interesting portion of the human family.

There are only two things to which I can attribute the cause of mudcats and suckers in January. One is the National Policy and the other the mildness of the season. Would some benign—seven-by-nine—*fish expert* step forward and relieve my mind of the dreadful uncertainty occasioned by this phenomena.

Your truly,
W. HALE.

Hamilton, Jan. 26, 1880.

AN IMPORTANT FISHERY SUIT.—At the Police Court this morning Alexander Rollo, fisherman, Burlington Beach, was charged with catching young white fish in his nets, contrary to law. Mr. Sadleir defended the accused, and contended that it was impossible to catch herrings and siscoes in nets of the legal size without catching some white fish. His client did not wish to break the law, and he did not do it, inasmuch as he never tried to catch white fish. Mr. Kerr, Fishery Inspector, who prosecuted, suggested that, the case being a difficult one, his Worship should write to the Department, representing the circumstances. He (the Inspector) was instructed to proceed against these fishermen, and he produced a written authority from Mr. Whitcher, Commissioner of Fisheries, upholding him in a similar prosecution he had made at Niagara last year, although approving of the presiding magistrate reducing the fines. His Worship accordingly took the case under advisement. Mr. Kerr said he did not intend to give evidence in the charge against the fisherman Lewis of catching the fish out of season.

The Newmarket *Era* says:—We understand Mr. Wilmot, Government Fishery Inspector, intends depositing in the ponds and branch streams of the Holland river passing through this village, a large quantity of carp fry—both the Marsden and Gorham ponds being included. This description of fish are said fo be better than bass, and grow to maturity in two years.

In August 1880.

Seth Green says that it is not his shad which have been dying in Lake Ontario, but alewives, which go in such large schools that the water does not furnish food enough for all.

Gus. Wagner, of Youngstown, had 1,400, yards of gill nets seized recently, because it was set within three miles of the shore.

Mr. Leeder, a merchant at the Quio, and two other gentlemen, went out on a fishing expedition in a small boat in the Ottawa river on Saturday. The boat was capsized, and Mr. Leeder, who was unable to swim, was drowned. The other two were saved.

In July 1880.

Thos. D. Adams and A. D. Williams, Esquires, of New York city, in company with Major R. R. Call and the Surveyor-General, left for the North-West Falls on last Saturday morning. They arrived at their tenting ground the same evening, and, after making themselves comfortable for the night, commenced to arrange the fishing tackle. That evening they had hooked out of the pools seven fine fish, one hooked by the Surveyor-General weighing from 25 to 27 lbs. On Monday night their score stood 26, and on Tuesday the grand total was 52 salmon and grilse and 33 trout. They left for home Wednesday morning, arriving at Newcastle that evening. We pronounce this the most successful salmon excursion yet made this season.—*Newcastle (N.B.) Advocate.*

The fisheries round the coasts of the Magdalen Islands are reported to be more lucrative this year than for many seasons past, with the exception of lobster catching, which has fallen short.

NET FISHING AGAIN.

Inspector Carr Charged With Having Shown Partiality—A Citizen Proposes to Make a Personal Inspection of Nets.

A gentleman in the city has, it is understood, received a communication from the private secretary of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries asking for information with reference to net fishing in the Humber and Don rivers and Ashbridge's Bay. This gentleman proposes to make a personal inspection, under the guidance of an old fisherman, of the different places, with a view to ascertaining the causes of dissatisfaction and the chances of remedying the evil. In a conversation with a *Telegram* reporter yesterday the gentleman stated that for the past five years efforts have been made to stop net fishing in the bays. When the agitation was first commenced there was good fishing and it was only because of the enormous quantities of fish wantonly destroyed that anything was said. Now, however, the fishing grounds have been so depleted by nets that it becomes an absolute necessity for some action to be taken in the matter.

The guide, who proposes to accompany the gentleman in his investigation has fished in Lake Ontario for a great many years, and says that he never saw so many fish rotting on the beach as were exposed along the shores of Ashbridge's Bay. "Why, sir," he remarked, "there is not five nets in the whole bay that has the proper sized mesh, all of them being made to catch small as well as large fish. If the fishermen were prohibited from setting their nets in the bay they would have fully as good fishing on the lake-side, and then excellent line fishing could be had in the bay in a short time."

"Is not Inspector Carr aware of this fact?" queried the reporter.

"Certainly he is, but he takes good care to keep quiet in that matter, as well as in a great many others. He is not treating the citizens of Toronto fairly, or rather those who could enjoy a day's fishing. Neither does he treat the fishermen impartially, as he makes favourites of some and prosecutes others with the greatest vigour. I am in a position to say, and I challenge him to deny it, that Inspector Carr notified a fisherman on the Island that he was going to search the Bay for nets on a certain Sunday, and the evening before he made the seizure he went over to the Island and slept all night in this fisherman's house. This fact will be laid before the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, as no public officer has a right to make 'fish of one and fowl of another.'"

It is quite evident that some steps will shortly have to be taken either by the citizens or Inspector Carr, and if the latter has any desire to stand well with the people who take an interest in Canadian fisheries, and the authorities at Ottawa he will do well to represent the whole case at once to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

THE NEW BRUNSWICK RIVER CASE.

THE case which was argued before the Dominion Exchequer Court on Thursday between the owners of property on the Miramichi river and the Dominion Government, is one which involves very important consequences. The Dominion Government leased to a St. John gentleman for fishing purposes a portion of the river in question. The owners of property along the banks objected, and brought action for interruption of their alleged right of free fishing in the river. The New Brunswick Courts decided in favour of the plaintiffs. The lessee of the Dominion, of course, fell back upon the Government for compensation, and a case was agreed upon for submission to the Dominion Exchequer Court. Mr. LASH, Q. C., Deputy Minister of Justice, appeared for the Dominion, and Mr. R. S. HALIBURTON for, virtually, the Province of New Brunswick. The legal questions at issue are very interesting, the main question being whether the river was such a river as was transferred to the Dominion by the Act of Union, which gave river and lake improvements and sea coast and inland fisheries to the Dominion, or whether it was such a river as could be included in the terms "property "and civil rights," as being a non-tidal river, the property in which would belong to the proprietors of the banks on each side. These questions were argued no doubt ably, and a decision will be given at an early date.

Meantime the legal question seems important, mainly as involving the whole question of the administration of the system of developing and protecting the river fisheries of the Dominion. Up to this time there has been no serious dispute as to the power of the Dominion Government to put in force its wise and successful system of protecting, stocking, and leasing the rivers. As everyone knows, this system has been most valuable in its results to the country. Under the direction of the Commissioner of Fisheries, numerous rivers, the fisheries of which were being utterly destroyed, have been rescued from destruction and uselessness; have been protected and re-stocked, and have been made to furnish an enormous quantity of river fish for consumption and exportation. In the Lower Provinces in particular, the rivers were being rapidly ruined for fishing purposes. In some, where formerly fish had been plentiful, none had been caught for years. Recently these very rivers have again become fruitful of fish, greatly to the satisfaction and advantage of all who pursue the fisheries of the rivers either for pastime or for profit. The system of protection and stocking had to be forced at first on a very unwilling people, who did not see the wisdom of the scheme; but after years of patient and firm administration most of them have come to see the value of the protection system, and have acquiesced in the rules which were for their ultimate benefit. If, therefore, the Exchequer Court should decide that the Dominion has not the right to protect the inland rivers, and that the property in the fisheries lies in the owners of the land on each side, the whole system of protection will go to smash at once, and the rivers will again deteriorate. The Provinces, particularly the Lower Provinces, will not be able to exercise the same rigid surveillance over the fisheries. The owners will not take either trouble or expense on themselves. The mill-owners will be as reckless as usual about filling up the rivers. All sorts of net fishing will be pursued at all sorts of seasons, and in a few years the improvements which the Dominion has made at great expense and with great pains and care, and in which the people had begun to acquiesce, will have disappeared, and the rivers will again become as barren as before. The Dominion Government has had great trouble in putting the law into force. Political considerations often interfered with the proper punishment of offenders, and local influences were constantly interrupting the due process of the law; but, on the whole, the system was successful and beneficial in the highest degree. Over forty millions of young fish were put into the lakes and rivers last year, as appears by a recent return; but the Provinces will never have the firmness and patience to adopt a system of their own. It is for this reason that we look with much anxiety for the decision of the Court in this test case.

FISH PROPOGATION.—Last Thursday Mr. John W. Kerr, Overseer of Fisheries, arrived here with three dozen adult black bass, which were at once placed in the pond, and seemed to take kindly to their new quarters. The importance of protecting these fish may be gleaned from the fact that according to Seth Green, the best authority in America, a full grown pair of black bass will yield and fertilize 20,000 eggs, and will take care of them until the fry are able to take care of themselves. Any person therefore, who catches one bass out of the pond or creek this spring, is liable to lessen the season's production of young fish by 20,000. These fish, in the second year, would be eight to nine inches long, and in a few years grow to five, six, and some even seven and eight pounds weight. In a very few years there should be an inexhaustable supply for food and sport, and it is to the interest of every citizen to aid in protecting them. The Government, anxious to encourage such enterprises, grant to the lessees of the pond special protection, under which poachers are liable to a fine of $200 00, or four months imprisonment. Any person fishing between the grist mill and the first line, Trafalgar, at present, will be liable to prosecution on three points, i.e., trespass, fishing out of season, and infringement of the Government order for special protection. Such parties may rest assured that they will be prosecuted on every possible point. Complainants get half the fines. We omitted to mention Mr. R. D. Storey as a member of the Association, last week.